#### **APPENDIX F**

### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

F-1	Open House Public Meeting Documentation – November 18, 2004
F-2	Public Meeting Documentation – June 28, 2005
F-3	Notices of Intent (NOI) to Prepare Environmental Impact Statement Texas Register (August 11, 2006) and Federal Register (August 18, 2006)
F-4	Scoping Meeting Documentation September 26, 2006 (Draft Need and Purpose and Draft Coordination Plan presented)
F-5	Invitation to Become a Participating Agency (sample letter & invitation list) – November 8, 2006
F-6	Participating Agency/Affected Meeting Documentation – November 16, 2006
F-7	Scoping Meeting and Participating Agency Meeting Documentation – May 22, 2007
F-8	Affected Landowner/Participating Agency Public Meeting Documentation – November 27, 2007
F-9	Recommended Preferred Alternative Participating Agency/Affected Landowner Public Meeting Documentation – June 10, 2008
F-10	Feasibility Study for the Lindale Reliever Route
F-11	Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
F-12	US 69/LP 49 North Lindale Reliever Route EIS Corridor Study

F-1	Open House Public Meeting Documentation – November 18, 2004	

#### TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



# NEWS

### **Tyler District**

CONTACT: Mike Battles, P.E.

Date: October 7, 2004

TELEPHONE: 903-510-9241

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a Public Meeting on November 18, 2004 to discuss possible routes for the US 69 Lindale Reliever Route. The meeting will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Lindale High School Cafetorium at 920 E. Hubbard Street. This public meeting will be held in an open-house format with no formal presentation.

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Persons who have special communication or accommodation needs and plan to attend this meeting are encouraged to contact Delaina Mayers-Pipes at (903) 510-9267 at least two work days prior to the meeting. Since this meeting will be conducted in English, any requests for language interpreters should also be made at least two days prior to the meeting. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.



## TYLER DISTRICT Facsimile

2709 West Front Street Tyler, Texas 75702-7712 (903)510-9100 FAX Number: (903)510-9138

TO:			FROM:		
Notic	es & Classifieds	Amy Stotts			
COMPANY:			DATE:		
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Notes/Commen	its:				

### (Rev. 2/2004) (GSD-EPC) Page 1 of 1

#### ORDER AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT

October 7, 2004

District:	Tyler	
Order No.:	10-5-2046	

Control:

0190-04-033

Project:

US 69 Lindale Reliever Route

Highway:

US 69

County:

Smith

Charge No.: 0190-04-033

La Opinion

P.O. Box 8340 Jacksonville, TX 75766

Attn: Advertisement Department

Please print the attached advertisement in your newspaper on the following date(s):

Desired publication date(s), i.e.: On or before October 19, 2004 and on or before November 9, 2004

#### Attach a clipping of the advertisement to your invoice.

#### Submit invoice to:

Texas Department of Transportation 2709 West Front Street Tyler, TX 75702-7712

Please send invoice to above Office. If further information is needed, please contact Mr. William M Battles, P.E. (903) 510-9241

IMPORTANT:

INVOICES MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER ADVERTISEMENT IS COMPLETED.

Sincerely

Tyler District Design Engineer

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ISSUING OFFICE:

Original to newspaper; (2) copies for purchase order file, (1) copy of which will support the invoice.

Issuing Office is to insert the Order Number.

The Texas Department of Transportation maintains the information collected through this form. With few exceptions, you are entitled on request to be informed about the information that we collect about you. Under §§552.021 and 552.023 of the Texas Government Code, you also are entitled to receive and review the information. Under §559.004 of the Government Code, you are also entitled to have us correct information about you that is incorrect. For inquiries call 512/416-2601.



## TYLER DISTRICT Facsimile

2709 West Front Street Tyler, Texas 75702-7712 (903)510-9100 FAX Number: (903)510-9138

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## TYLER DISTRICT Facsimile

2709 West Front Street Tyler, Texas 75702-7712 (903)510-9100 FAX Number: (903)510-9138

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# Taxas Department of Transportation Form 474 (Rev. 2/2004) (GSD-EPC) Page 1 of 1

#### ORDER AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT

October 7 2004

District:	Tyler	
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Order No.: 10-5-2047

Control:

0190-04-033

Project:

US 69 Lindale Relieve Route

Highway:

US 69

County:

Smith

Charge No.: 0190-04-033

Tyler Morning Telegraph P.O. Box 2030 Tyler, TX 75710

Attn: Advertisement Department

Please print the attached advertisement in your newspaper on the following date(s):

Desired publication date(s), i.e.: On or before October 19, 2004 and on or before November 9, 2004

#### Attach a clipping of the advertisement to your invoice.

#### Submit invoice to:

Texas Department of Transportation 2709 West Front Street Tyler, TX 75702-7712

Please send invoice to above Office. If further information is needed, please contact Mr. William M. Battles, P.E. (903) 510-9241

IMPORTANT:

INVOICES MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER ADVERTISEMENT IS COMPLETED.

Sincerely

William M. Battles, P.E. Tyler District Design Engineer

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ISSUING OFFICE:

Original to newspaper; (2) copies for purchase order file, (1) copy of which will support the invoice.

Issuing Office is to insert the Order Number.

The Texas Department of Transportation maintains the information collected through this form. With few exceptions, you are entitled on request to be informed about the information that we collect about you. Under §\$552.021 and 552.023 of the Texas Government Code, you also are entitled to receive and review the information. Under §559.004 of the Government Code, you are also entitled to have us correct information about you that is incorrect. For inquiries call 512/416-2601.

#### TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



# NEWS

### **Tyler District**

CONTACT: Mike Battles, P.E.

Date: October 7, 2004

TELEPHONE: 903-510- 9241

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a Public Meeting on November 18, 2004 to discuss possible routes for the US 69 Lindale Reliever Route. The meeting will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Lindale High School Cafetorium at 920 E. Hubbard Street. This public meeting will be held in an open-house format with no formal presentation.

The US 69 Reliever Route will ultimately relieve traffic through the City of Lindale. TxDOT will display a proposal for developing this corridor as a toll facility with a connection to the proposed Loop 49 at IH - 20. Attendees will be encouraged to ask about toll facilities and to provide TxDOT comments and concerns regarding potential tolling as a method to expedite construction.

Questions and comments from the public regarding the social, environmental, and economic aspects of improvements will be considered in the environmental assessment. Information about the proposed project is available for review at the office of Mike Battles, P.E., District Design Engineer, 2709 W. Front Street in Tyler, Texas. Mr. Battles may be reached at (903) 510-9241. All interested persons are invited to attend the meeting.

Persons who have special communication or accommodation needs and plan to attend this meeting are encouraged to contact Delaina Mayers-Pipes at (903) 510-9267 at least two work days prior to the meeting. Since this meeting will be conducted in English, any requests for language interpreters should also be made at least two days prior to the meeting. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

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## TYLER DISTRICT Facsimile

2709 West Front Street Tyler, Texas 75702-7712 (903)510-9100 FAX Number: (903)510-9138

TO:			FROM:		
Notice	es & Classifieds		Amy Stor	tts	
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Notes/Commen	ts:				

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amy Stotts at (903) 510-9107.



#### **ORDER AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT**

October 7 2004

District:	Tyler	
Order No.:	10-5-2048	

Control:

0190-04-033

Project:

US 69 Lindale Reliever Route

Highway:

US 69

Smith

County: S

\_\_\_\_

Charge No.: 0190-04-033

Lindale News & Times 104 South Main Street Lindale, TX 75757

Attn: Advertisement Department

Please print the attached advertisement in your newspaper on the following date(s):

Desired publication date(s), i.e.: On or before October 19, 2004 and on or before November 9, 2004

#### Attach a clipping of the advertisement to your invoice.

#### Submit invoice to:

Texas Department of Transportation 2709 West Front Street Tyler, TX 75702-7712

Please send invoice to above Office. If further information is needed, please contact Mr. William M. Battles, P.E. (903) 510-9241

IMPORTANT:

INVOICES MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER ADVERTISEMENT IS COMPLETED.

Sincerely,

William M. Battles, P.E.
Tyler District Design Engineer

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#### TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



# NEWS

### **Tyler District**

CONTACT: Mike Battles, P.E.

Date: October 7, 2004

TELEPHONE: 903-510- 9241

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#### TYLER DISTRICT Facsimile

2709 West Front Street Tyler, Texas 75702-7712 (903)510-9100 FAX Number: (903)510-9138

TO:			FROM:		
<b>Notices &amp; Classifieds</b>		Amy Stotts			
COMPANY:			DATE:		
Mineola Monitor		10-7-04			
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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amy Stotts at (903) 510-9107.

# Totas Department of Transportation Form 474 (Rev. 2/2004) (GSD-EPC) Page 1 of 1

#### ORDER AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT

October 7, 2004

District:	Tyler	
Order No :	10 5 2040	

Control:

0190-04-033

Project:

US 69 Lindale Reliever Route

Highway:

US 69

County:

Smith

Charge No.: 0190-04-033

Mineola Monitor P.O. Box 210 Mineola, TX 75773

Attn: Advertisement Department

Please print the attached advertisement in your newspaper on the following date(s):

Desired publication date(s), i.e.: On or before October 19, 2004 and on or before November 9, 2004

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#### Submit invoice to:

Texas Department of Transportation 2709 West Front Street Tyler, TX 75702-7712

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### TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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Name	Address	Phone # / email	Affiliation (Property Owner, Elected Official, TxDOTetc)
worky Torry		,	
Lynn Kylkin			
Phillip Hanley			
Herm Nenman			
GEN CONATT			
Karen Coomer			
alam Danne			
KJHORN			
Quely Page			
ase & Mickey 10000			
Last Willi			
Gerald Olyande			
CHARLES METZ			
Terry + Linda Lockhart			
Mark Neuschafer			
DAUID NUFFER			
Edward Noely			
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Danny Borne			
14 1K-			

Name	Address	Phone # / email	Affiliation (Property Owner, Elected Official, TxDOT, etc.)			
1 Greg Evans						
2 BILL KASHOUTY						
3 HERB HAVENS						
5 EVACE FREEDMAN						
5 EVACE PRECEDENTAL						
6 Janet Oly						
8 16 Jun Com						
· MULAEL BARTLEY						
Din & Tyme						
2 Janala K, Craw Ind						
AAROCD SPIDLE						
X Buly TARKER						
teggs Sheparel						
PATRICIC THOMAS						
Jean Phones						
Jean Phonedos Toni Miles						

	Name	Address	-	Phone # / email	Affiliation (Properly Owner, Elected Official, TxDOT, etc.)
61	SISILEINART MD				,
62	PATTURLER				
63	JOE N. WELLS				
64	Howard Beggs				
65	Banti demolar				
66	Glenn Campbell				
67	THOMAS G. GREEN				
68	KAY KENDALL				
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Name	Address	Phone # / email	Affiliation (Property Owner, Elected Official, TxDOT, etc.)
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BE DOUG RACSDALE			
BB RYAN EROWN		×	
B4 Jane 11 Klerne			
85 Charles Tlenane			
86 Journ. Jackson			
or James & Dant Kuttedge,			
38 J. S. Dow. afoll			
19 Han Moore			
00 CHARLOS LAWE			
11 Shurin Foreith			
12 Jammie Breude			
o Veride Brown			
A Linda Westerfeld & Chall			
5 Strahel Is France			
austine fold Todd			
7 Mill 19 VA Hemy 15			
8 Ken-Dana White			
· Carolyn Todd			
00			

#### US 69 Reliever Route COMMENT SHEET

November 18, 2004

Thank you for attending this public meeting. Public involvement is a vital part of the route study process and your participation is greatly appreciated.

Your comments on the US 69 Relief Route Project and the alternative corridors under consideration are desired. You may:

- 1. Provide written comments at this meeting, or
- 2. Mail in your comments to the address on the back
- \*\* If you choose to provide your written comments we request that you place the provided sticker near to the location of your home or business on the aerial map at the comment table.

omments:		4
(	(Use additional pages if needed)	
lease indicate the date and in	nclude your name and mailing address:	
lame:	Date:	
lailing Address:		
f you choose to mail your written	n comments, please mail by December 3, 2004	140

Timberline Baptist Camp Attn: Douglas R. Crawford 15363 FM 849 Lindale, TX 75771

O.S. Leinart, M.D. 141 Cypress Point Circle Lindale, TX 75771

Wayne D. P.O. Box 412 Lindale, TX 75771

John & Lynne Tweedell 1606 Pineview Ln. Hide Away, TX 75771

Charles Klemme 618 Hideaway Lane East Hide Away, TX 75771

Gary D. Jackson P.O. Box 1210 Lindale, TX 75771

Allen Ross 2922 Pollard Tyler, TX 75701

Bill Kashouty Mayor 558 Hideaway Ln. East Hide Away, TX 75771

Charles Metz 127 St. Andrews Circle Lindale, TX 75771

John P. Maston 902 Karen Dr. Lindale, TX 75771

Karen Coomer 506 E. North Lindale, TX 75771 Joe & Vickey Wells 16385 CR 473 Lindale, TX 75771

Jerry & Linda Lockhart 16053 CR 472 Tyler, TX 75706

Micheal Bartley 1521 Tanglewood Dr. East Hide Away, TX 75771

Janell Klemme 618 Hideaway Lane East Hide Away, TX 75771

Howard Beggs 16539 FM 16 W. Lindale, TX 75771

Mike Shepard 515 Dogwood Ln. Hide Away, TX 75771

Carolyn Todd 18114 CR. 431 Lindale, TX 75771

Jeff Palmer 21282 FM 1995 Tyler, TX 75704

Lanty Wylie 1519 Tanglewood Dr. East Lindale, TX 75771

Jerry Terry P.O. Box 252 Lindale, TX 75771

R.J. Horn 15533 FM 849 Lindale, TX 75771 Judy Page 16385 CR 473 Lindale, TX 75771

Herb Havens 1629 Meadowlark Ln. Hide Away, TX 75771

Janet Riley 1368 Bridle Path Ln. Lindale, TX 75771

George Alexander 1520 Tanglewood Dr. East Lindale, TX 75771

Joyce Hunt 1620 Ginger Dr. Hide Away, TX 75771

A.L. Hogg 642 Northgate Hide Away, TX 75771

Patrick Thomas 314 Lakeview Dr. Hide Away, TX 75771

Toni Miles 801 B. Hickory St. Lindale, TX 75771

Joe N. Wells 16385 CR 473 Lindale, TX 75771

Kathy Parker 205 Bayhills Dr. Lindale, TX 75771

Todd Lane 809 Edgewood Cr. Lindale, TX 75771 Ed Watts P.O. Box 1205 Lindale, TX 75771

Chuck Freeman 623 Northgate Hide Away, TX 75771

Tommie Cosby 3587 FM 778 Mineola, TX 75773

Edward Neely P.O. Box 482 Lindale, TX 75771

Danny Boone 18701 CR 4108 Lindale, TX 75771

Bobby McClenny Mayor of Lindale 706 N. Georgia Lindale, TX 75771

Jean Rhodes 16655 Meadow Crest Lindale, TX 75771

Pat Turner Lindale News & Times Lindale, TX 75771

Harold Spidle 22282 CR 431 Lindale, TX 75771

Peggy Shepard 515 Dogwood Ln. Lindale, TX 75771

Wayne Jones 15421 Country Manor Lindale, TX 75771 Joe Swendson 15028 Boaz Ln. Tyler, TX 75703

Anita Anderson 126 St. Andrews Circle Lindale, TX 75771

Glenn Campbell 1630 Brookhollow Dr. Lindale, TX 75771

Ray Kendall 201 N. Main St. Lindale, TX 75771

Rex Neely 13333 CR 411 Tyler, TX 75706

Owen Scott P.O. Box 834 Lindale, TX 75771

Doug Ragsdale 19541 Hwy. 16 Lindale, TX 75771

Gary D. Jackson P.O. Box 1210 Lindale, TX 75771

H.L. & Doris Hobbs P.O. Box 2645 Lindale, TX 75771

Charles Lane 19537 CR 431 Lindale, TX 75771

Jimmie Brewster 513 Circle Dr. Lindale, TX 75771 George Sharp 15722 FM 16 W. Lindale, TX 75771

Bambi Henderson 310 Lakeview Dr. Tyler, TX 75703

Thomas G. Green 1634 Brookhollow Dr. Lindale, TX 75771

Gayle W. 1246 Hideaway Lane West Hide Away, TX 75771

Mary Ann McClenny 706 N. Georgia Lindale, TX 75771

Duane B. Spaeth 147 Fairway Dr. East Lindale, TX 75771

Bryan Brown 123 St. Andrews Hide Away, TX 75771

James & Janet Rutledge 15428 Country Manor Rd. Lindale, TX 75771

Ann Moore 19981 CR 4104 Lindale, TX 75771

Lynn Forsyth 15407 Country Manor Lindale, TX 75771

Travis Brown 15432 Country Manor Lindale, TX 75771 Linda Westerfeld 16441 Fox Run Lindale, TX 75771

Lawerence Todd 18115 CR 431 Lindale, TX 75771

Ken & Donna White 17951 Autrey Ln. Lindale, TX 75771 Mitchell Francis 801 B. Hickory St. Lindale, TX 75771

James & Eva Fleming 17646 CR 431 Lindale, TX 75771 x Dot

# Sign-In Sheet US 69 Lindale Reliever Route Public Meeting

	Name	Address		Phone # / email	Affiliation (Property Owner, Elected Official, TxDOT, etc)		
21	Tommy Doss						
22	Amy Storts						
23	Dorda West						
24	PETE MARTINEZ						
25	Mike Bartles						
26	Bryan Holge						
27	Durayne Dyna						
28	Rand Reducal						
29	Man Diver						
30	Karlyson						
31	2 Mit & Sharane						
32	Jessp. Sisco						
33	Je C 1 Dove						
34	BOBBY MCCLENNY						
35	CLIFFORD R. NOUSER	_					
36	LADO THOMPSON						
37	ED COATE						
38	Ide Soat						
39							

	November 18, 2004					
Name	Address	Phone # / email (optional)	Affiliation (Properly Owner, Elected Official, TxDOT, etc)			
Jorna Torry						
Lynn Papkin						
Millio Hanley						
Merin Neuman						
GEN CONATT						
Haren Coomer						
Mayon Danis						
NIHORN						
July Page						
Doe & Vickey 100000						
Last Willia						
Gerall Oleyand						
CHARLES METZ.						
Terry + Linda Lockhart						
Mark Neuschafer						
DAJID NUFER						
Edward Noely						
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	November 18, 2004					
	Name	Address	Phone # / email	Affiliation (Properly Owner, Elected Official, TxDOT, etc)		
41	Greg Evans					
42	BILL KASHOUTY	L				
43	HERB HAVENS					
44	CAUCK FREEDMAN					
45	EVACE PREEDMAN	_				
46	Jonet Blog					
47	Jeff Christ					
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50	MICHAEL BARTLEY	_				
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	Name	Address	Phone # / email	Affiliation (Property Owner, Elected Official, TxDOT, etc)
61 A	1,5, LeINMET MD			
A 62	JAT VRAFR			
63	JOE N. WELLS			
64	Flowerd Beggs			
65	Bank dender			
66	Glenn Edmpbell			
67	THOMAS G. GREEN			
68	RAY KENDALL			
f 69	- Hugh (Challey			
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# Sign-In Sheet US 69 Lindale Reliever Route Public Meeting

November 18, 2004

				Affiliation
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DUANE B. SPAETH				
2 Duc RAESDALE				
BRYAN BROWN				
4 JAne 11 Klemme				
5 Charles Tleanne				
6 Dough. Jackson				
James & Janet Ruttedge				
8 H. H. Down Wolfe				
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CHARLES LAUE				
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2 Jamenic Accustu				
- Kinda Mesterfeld & Chies				
5 State of 11 Anenie				
6 Justin Hody Todd				
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00				

November 18, 2004

Thank you for attending this public meeting. Public involvement is a vital part of the route study process and your participation is greatly appreciated.

Your comments on the US 69 Relief Route Project and the alternative corridors under consideration are desired. You may:

- 1. Provide written comments at this meeting, or
- 2. Mail in your comments to the address on the back
- \*\* If you choose to provide your written comments we request that you place the provided sticker near to the location of your home or business on the aerial map at the comment table.

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Please indicate the date and include your name and mailing address:
Name: MICHAEL BARTCBY Date: 11/18/04
Mailing Address: 1521 TANGLEWOOD DRIVE BAST
HIDE AWAY, TX 75771

If you choose to mail your written comments, please mail by December 3, 2004

121

November 18, 2004

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If you choose to mail your written comments, please mail by December 3, 2004

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Please indicate the date and include your name and mailing address:
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If you choose to mail your written comments, please mail by December 3, 2004

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November 18, 2004

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to confact me for fur the Claritica tion, please confact
me, Thankyou
(Use additional pages if needed)
Please indicate the date and include your name and mailing address:
Name: Jerry & hinda Lockhart Date: 11/18/04
Mailing Address: 16053 (A 472
Tyle, TX 75766
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If you choose to mail your written comments, please mail by December 3, 2004

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F-2 Public Meeting Documentation – June 28, 2005

#### TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



# NEWS

**Tyler District** 

CONTACT: Mike Battles, P.E.

Date: May 20, 2005

TELEPHONE: 903-510-9241

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a Public Meeting on June 28, 2005 to discuss possible routes for the US 69 Lindale Reliever Route. The meeting will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Lindale at 402 W. Hubbard Street. This public meeting will be held in an open-house format with no formal presentation.

The US 69 Reliever Route will ultimately relieve traffic through the City of Lindale. TxDOT will display a proposal for developing this corridor as a toll facility with a connection to the proposed Loop 49 at IH - 20. Attendees will be encouraged to ask about toll facilities and to provide TxDOT comments and concerns regarding potential tolling as a method to expedite construction.

Questions and comments from the public regarding the social, environmental, and economic aspects of improvements will be considered in the environmental assessment. Information about the proposed project is available for review at the office of Mike Battles, P.E., District Design Engineer, 2709 W. Front Street in Tyler, Texas. Mr. Battles may be reached at (903) 510-9241. All interested persons are invited to attend the meeting.

Persons who have special communication or accommodation needs and plan to attend this meeting are encouraged to contact Wynelle McDonald at (903) 510-9217 at least two work days prior to the meeting. Since this meeting will be conducted in English, any requests for language interpreters should also be made at least two days prior to the meeting. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

### TXDOT SCHEDULES JUNE 28 LOOP 49 MEETING IN LINDALE

By: MARK COLLETTE, Staff Writer

LINDALE - The public will have another chance next week to tell state officials where a key section of Loop 49 should or should not be built, the Texas Department of Transportation announced Monday.

TxDOT is holding an open-house style meeting June 28 in Lindale, where folks can weigh in on the proposed F.S. Highway 69 reliever route, designed to draw heavy traffic away from the city's bustling Main Street.

TxDOT officials emphasize no specific route has been chosen, but detailed environmental studies have zeroed in on a 1,000-foot-wide study area, or "preferred corridor." It runs from Interstate 20 southeast of Hideaway to U.S. 69 north of Lindale.

The corridor is a combination of two of the five proposed corridors, known as "D" and "E," presented by TxDOT at a public meeting last fall.

The final alignment will likely occupy about 450 feet of the 1,000-foot preferred corridor. Depending on the results of the studies and public input, the final alignment, in some areas, could end up shifting outside of the original study area.

The June 28 meeting will give the public a chance to point out areas of concern TxDOT may not have considered, including potential environmental problems or new areas of commercial or residential development that may have popped up since the studies.

Proposal "E" runs close to Hideaway's northeastern border, and its residents made staunch objections to that alignment. The detailed environmental study encompassed a corridor farther east.

The Hideaway Board of Aldermen passed a resolution last year to dissuade TxDOT from choosing "E," but transportation officials said the decision to look farther east was based on cost considerations and physical obstacles.

Hideaway residents turned out in force at the fall meeting, dominating a map with orange stickers that represented individual areas of concern. Most residents who placed orange stickers said they didn't want the noise, pollution and other headaches associated with proximity to a highway.

TxDOT officials say they hope to have another public hearing in 2006, once a specific highway alignment has been identified.

#### Tyler Morning Telegram 2 of 2 June 20, 2005

The final alignment must receive approval from the Federal Highway Administration, which reviews whether TxDOT has taken steps to avoid or mitigate environmental damage and other problems.

Late this week or early next week, Lindale and Hideaway residents should receive mailed invitations to the June 28 meeting, TxDOT officials said. They will be able to speak with TxDOT engineers and project consultants, and will have a chance to submit written comments.

#### How To Get Involved

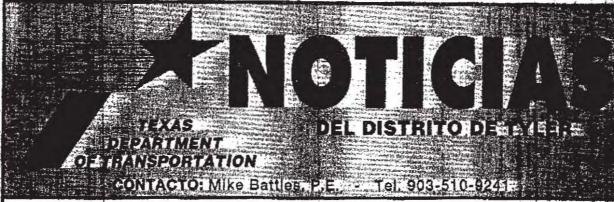
What: TxDOT Loop 49, Lindale-area meeting\_

When: June 28, 6 to 8 p.m., open-house style.

Where: First United Methodist Church, 402 W. Hubbard St., Lindale.

Mark Collette covers Smith County. He can be reached at 903.596.6303. e-mail: news@tylerpaper.com

©Tyler Morning Telegraph 2005



### **AVISO DE JUNTA PUBLICA**

El Departamento de Transportes de Texas (TxDOT), estará llevando a cabo una Junta Pública el 28 de Junio del 2005, para discutir las posibles direcciones de la Ruta de Alivio de Lindale sobre la Carretera Federal 69 (US Hwy. 69). La junta se llevará a cabo de las 6:00 a 8:00 pm en la Iglesia First Mehodist Church de Lindale, con dirección en 402 W. Hubbard Street. Esta junta pública se llevará a cabo de una manera informal y sin presentaciones formales.

La Ruta de Alivio de la Carretera Federal 69, hará más fluído el tráfico en la ciudad de Lindale. El Departamento de Transportes de Texas (TxDOT) mostrará la propuesta para el desarrollo de este corredor como una carretera de cobro con una conexión al Periférico 49 propuesto (Loop 49) a la altura de la Carretera interestatal 20 (IH 20). A las personas que asistan a dicha junta se les pedirá que hagan preguntas y que expresen sus comentarios y preocupaciones a los representantes de TxDOT con respecto al potencial cobro propuesto como un método para acelerar la construcción a la Ruta de Alivio.

Las preguntas y comentarios del público con respecto a los aspectos económicos, del medio ambiente y sociales de la realización de la Ruta de Alivio en Lindale, serán considerados en el estudio del medio ambiente. La información del proyecto propuesto estará disponible para su revisión en la oficina de Mike Battles, P.E., Ingeniero de Diseño del Distrito, con dirección en 2709 W. Front Street en Tyler, Texas. El Ingeniero Battles podrá ser localizado en el teléfono 903-510-9421. Todas las personas que deseen acudir, serán bienvenidas a la junta.

Las personas interesadas en asistir a la audiencia y que tengan necesidades de comunicación y acomodación especial, favor de ponerse en contacto con Wynelle McDonald, TxDOT al (903) 510-9217, por lo menos dos días anteriores a la junta. Debido a que esta junta se llevará a cabo en inglés, cualquier pedido para intérpretes de idiomas u otras necesidades especiales de comunicación, también deberán ser hechas por lo menos dos días anteriores a la junta. TxDOT hará cualquier esfuerzo razonable para satisfacer estas necesidades.



PARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CONTACTO: Mike Battles, P.E. - Tel. 903-510-9241

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#### Frequently Asked Questions

#### What is the Lindale Reliever Route?

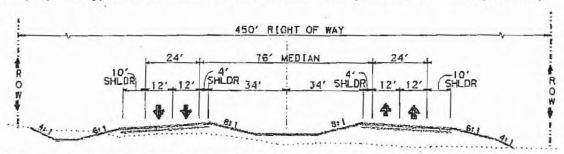
The Lindale Reliever Route is a new location, four-lane divided controlled access highway west of the City of Lindale. The reliever route is being studied as a means to improve mobility and increase the safety of the traveling public. The reliever route will decrease traffic congestion on US 69 through the City of Lindale and in turn, increase safety, by diverting non-local, thru-traffic onto a separate route.

#### Why is the Reliever Route West of Lindale?

The reliever route is West of the City of Lindale, so that it can serve the purpose of relieving traffic and improving safety on US 69 through the center of Lindale. The route was selected to be West, rather than East of the City due to the large amount of existing development East of US 69 in Lindale. Additionally, during the feasibility study, it was determined that a connection with the Tyler Loop 49 at 1H 20 would provide a more convenient route for the US 69 traffic.

#### What is the proposed typical section?

The proposed typical section is a four-lane divided freeway section in a 450' right-of-way.



#### When is the Reliever Route scheduled for construction?

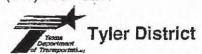
Using traditional funding methods, the Lindale Reliever Route would likely be funded for construction after 2030. However, if the reliever route is approved as a toil road, construction could begin as early as 2012.

#### Will it be a toll road?

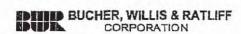
The toll feasibility of the Lindale Reliever Route is currently under study. It is likely that a portion of the cost of construction will be deemed toll feasible, with the remaining cost to be obtained from State and Local funding sources.

For Additional Information Regarding the US 69 Lindale Reliever Route please contact:

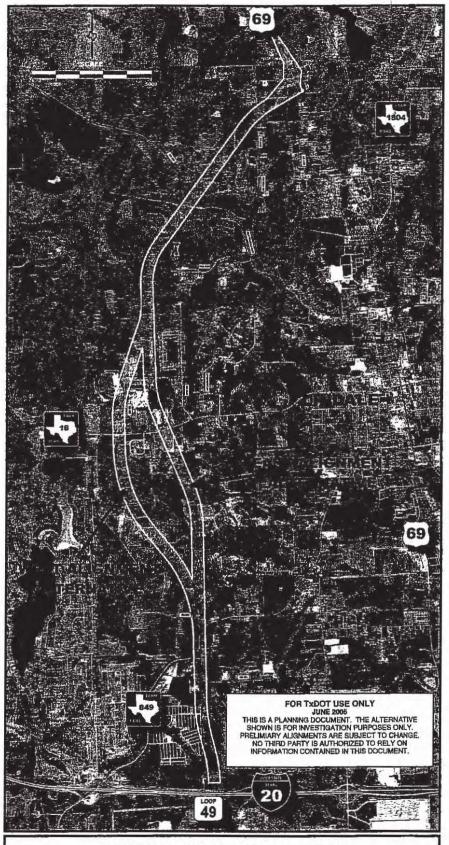
Mike Battles, P.E. TxDOT Tyler District District Design Engineer (903) 510 – 9241



Dan Chapman, P.E. Bucher, Willis & Ratliff Corporation Project Manager (800) 513-6678



## US 60 Limble Reliever Review







ALIGNMENT ALTERNATIVES
US 69 RELIEVER ROUTE
LINDALE, TEXAS

BUCHTEL WILLS & RATLEY
COMPONATION
SERVICE T NAME & BATTLEY

June 28, 2005

Thank you for attending this public meeting. Public involvement is a vital part of the route study process and your participation is greatly appreciated.

Your comments on the US 69 Relief Route Project and the alternative alignments under consideration are desired. You may:

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## Sign-In Sheet US 69 Lindale Reliever Route Public Meeting

June 28, 2005

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ROBERT MARTIN			
Phillip Farrington			
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June 28, 2005

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June 28, 2005

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Phone Email officiation



# Public Meeting US 69 Lindale Reliever Route First United Methodist Church Lindale June 28, 2005

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# Public Meeting US 69 Lindale Reliever Route First United Methodist Church Lindale June 28, 2005

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# Public Meeting US 69 Lindale Reliever Route First United Methodist Church Lindale June 28, 2005

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# Public Meeting US 69 Lindale Reliever Route First United Methodist Church Lindale June 28, 2005

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Lewis Warren			
Amy Soto773			
David Som			
CHRISTINE CROSBY			
Mark Neuschafer			
CHRIS HOCATE			
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PETE MARTINEZ			
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## Sign-In Sheet US 69 Lindale Reliever Route Public Meeting

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Carolin Dayden			
Jerry Darden			
Meaghan Mc Gig			
Rita Newman			
Bashan Fulmer			
Dr. William Holmes			
M.M. Bradley			
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June 28, 2005			
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File Carson			
Russ Van Matre			
Wesland Jasapal			
Jerry Keilee			
Kay Gray			
Jean Rhoads			
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erry+Kim Sallee			
Warny Kaffer			
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JOEY TAYLOR			
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	Julio 20, 2005		
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NORMAN KOHL			
George Fleck			
NEVA I-ULEN			
Becky Dempsey			
SARY W. MSDAMZEL			
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Notices of Intent (NOI) to Prepare Environmental Impact Statement -- Texas Register (August 11, 2006) and Federal Register (August 18, 2006) F-3

REQUIREMENTS: The University is looking for someone to assess the current condition of our held in trust artifacts, to make changes to the facility as required to meet state standards, to negotiate letters of understanding between all stakeholders (The Caddo Nation, The Texas Historical Commission, the State Archeological Society, etc.), and to prepare a plan of action for future compliance activities.

DEADLINES: Proposals and/or resumes must be received in the office of Dr. Jerry Williams, Stephen F. Austin State University, P. O. Box 13047, Nacogdoches, Texas 75962 by 5:00pm, August 15, 2006, in order to be considered.

TRD-200603947 R. Yvette Clark General Counsel Stephen F. Austin State University Filed: July 25, 2006

### Texas A&M University, Board of Regents

Consultant Contract Award

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 2254, Subchapter B, Texas Government Code, The Texas A&M University System furnishes this notice of consultant contract award. A notice for request for proposals was filed in the March 17, 2006 issue of the Texas Register (31 TexReg 2331).

The consultant will provide evaluation services of the maintenance and custodial operations of the University Apartments (including the Community Center and Maintenance Building) located on the main campus of Texas A&M.

The consultant contract was awarded to Facility Engineering Associates, P.C., 11001 Lee Highway, Suite D, Fairfax, VA 22030-5018. Total value of the contact is \$55,700.00. Beginning and ending dates of the contract are June 28, 2006 through September 2006.

The consultant shall submit a preliminary written report to the Agreement Administrator on or about August 19, 2006. After making any requested modifications the consultant will submit copies of final report.

Consultant shall also present findings and recommendations in a formal on-campus presentation to University Administration. On site presentation to be coordinated with Residence Life. Possible date of first week in September.

TRD-200604011 Vickie Burt Spillers Executive Secretary to the Board Texas A&M University, Board of Regents Filed; August 2, 2006

Request for Proposal (RFP 06-0025)

Texas A&M University is accepting proposals and intends to enter into an Agreement with a Consultant to conduct an independent review of employee relations and quality of work life issues in the Physical Plant Department at the College Station campus. The project deliverables shall include a detailed assessment report with specific recommendations. The report will identify strengths and opportunities for improvement, making specific suggestions for the implementation of best practices to enhance the quality of work life in the Department. Recognizing that job satisfaction has a direct link to job performance, recommendations focused on improving quality of life in the workplace will

also put a high priority on ways to increase productivity in the workplace.

Information may be obtained by contacting:

Jeff Zimmermann, A.P.P.

Senior Buyer

Department of Strategic Sourcing and Purchasing Services

Texas A&M University

P.O. Box 30013

College Station, Texas 77842-301; or

e-mail at j-zimmermann@tamu.edu

Selection criteria will include methodology, competence, experience, knowledge, references, qualifications, and reasonableness of price. Proposals must be received on or before 2:00 p.m. central time on August 31, 2006.

TRD-200604010
Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Secretary to the Board
Texas A&M University, Board of Regents
Filed: August 2, 2006

#### Texas Department of Transportation

Notice of Intent

Pursuant to Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, §2.43(c)(8), the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Smith County, Texas.

TxDOT, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), will prepare an EIS for a proposal to construct a proposed Lindale Reliever Route (LRR) in Smith County, Texas. The proposed improvement would involve construction of a new location roadway from the planned Loop 49 West/IH 20 interchange to connect with the existing US 69 north of the City of Lindale, a roadway distance of approximately 5-6 miles.

The need for the proposed improvements is based on safety, mobility, connectivity, and capacity issues. US 69 is designated as a Texas Trunk System roadway, and the reliever route would serve as an extension of Loop 49 between the IH 20/Loop 49 West interchange and US 69. The purpose of the proposed improvements is to address these needs and to serve the traveling public. Alternatives under consideration include (1) taking no action; and (2) constructing a proposed US 69 Lindale Reliever Route/Loop 49 North facility built to current highway standards. The proposed facility will be evaluated as a toll road project. A Feasibility Study prepared in 2001 evaluated four corridor alternatives along new location right-of-way and a No-Build alternative, resulting in the identification of a recommended study corridor. Subsequent public involvement opportunities have identified an additional study corridor. A reasonable number of alignment alternatives have been identified and evaluated. Evaluation of these alternatives, as well as the No-Build Alternative, will be documented in the EIS, based on input from federal, state, and local agencies, as well as private organizations and concerned

The EIS will evaluate potential impacts from construction and operation of the proposed roadway including, but not limited to the following: impacts to residences and businesses, including potential relocations; transportation impacts (construction detours, construction traffic, and mobility improvement); air and noise impacts from construction equipment and operation of the roadway; social and economic impacts; impacts to cultural resources; water quality impacts from construction and roadway runoff; indirect and cumulative impacts; impacts related to tolling; and impacts to waters of the U.S. including wetlands from right-of-way encroachment.

A letter that describes the proposed action and a request for comments will be sent to appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed interest in the proposal. TxDOT completed a Feasibility Study for the project in May 2001. In conjunction with the Feasibility Study, TxDOT developed a steering committee, provided project information at two public meetings, and met with interested stakeholders. It is anticipated that an agency scoping meeting will be held by TxDOT in September 2006 to coordinate and solicit agency representatives? input on project plans including the purpose, need, and range of alternatives, introduce project team members, obtain comments pertaining to the scope of the EIS, identify important issues, set goals, develop project schedule, and respond to questions. A continuing public involvement program will include a project mailing list, project newsletters, a public scoping meeting (public notice will be given of the time and place), and numerous informal meetings with interested citizens and stakeholders. In addition, a public hearing will be held after the publication of the Draft ElS. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the hearing. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties.

Agency Contact: Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to Ms. Dianna Noble, P.E., Director, Environmental Affairs Division, Texas Department of Transportation, 125 E. 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78701-2483, (512) 416-3001.

TRD-200503986
Bob Jackson
Interim General Counsel
Texas Department of Transportation
Filed: August 1, 2006

#### Request for Proposal - Outside Counsel

The Texas Department of Transportation (the "department") requests proposals from law firms interested in representing the department in environmental law matters. This request for proposals (RFP) is issued for the purpose of identifying qualified law firms able to provide legal representation required by the department and the Texas Transportation Commission (the "commission") on legal matters related to compliance with environmental laws, regulations, and rules, both state and federal, affecting the department, and as more fully set out as follows. Selection of outside counsel will be made by the department's General Counsel. The Office of the Attorney General must approve the General Counsel's selection before the selected outside counsel may be employed.

Description: The department is a state agency that has the primary responsibility in Texas of constructing, operating, and maintaining a state transportation system. In connection with that responsibility, the department must deal with various environmental matters. These matters include, but are not limited to: obtaining appropriate permits; answering queries and complaints from state and federal regulatory authorities; complying with environmental laws, rules, and regulations, both

state and federal, on an ongoing basis; appearing before administrative and judicial tribunals, both state and federal, to answer charges of a civil and criminal nature, both state and federal; and generally complying with state and federal laws, rules, and regulations applicable to the responsibilities discharged by a state department of transportation. The department intends to engage outside counsel to represent the department in these matters. In particular, the department intends to rely on outside counsel to represent the department in criminal cases related to these matters. Accordingly, the department invites responses to this RFP from firms that are qualified to perform these legal services. Firms must have considerable prior experience with, as well as extensive knowledge of, these subjects. The firm should be experienced in the matter of criminal defense work involving alleged violations of both state and federal environmental laws, rules, and regulations.

Responses: Responses to the RFP may be submitted by an individual law firm, attorney, or joint venture between two or more law firms and/or attorneys. Responses to the RFP should include at least the following information: (1) a description of the firm's qualifications for performing legal work in the matters described previously, the names, experience, education, and expertise of the attorneys who will be assigned to work on such matters, the availability of the lead attorney and other firm personnel who will be assigned to work on these matters, and appropriate information regarding efforts made by the firm to encourage and develop the participation of minorities and women in the provision of these legal services; (2) information relative to the capabilities, location(s), and resources of the firm's offices which might serve the department's requirements, including a summary of physical resources that would be assigned to the department, and an organizational chart indicating the relevant areas of responsibility of each attorney assigned to work on these matters; (3) the submission of fee information (either in the form of hourly rates for each attorney and paralegal who will be assigned to perform services in relation to these matters, comprehensive flat fees, or other fee arrangements directly related to the achievement of specific goals and cost controls) and billable expenses; (4) an abstract of the firm's cost control procedures and how it charges for its services; (5) a comprehensive description of the procedures used by the firm to supervise the provision of legal services in a timely and cost effective manner; (6) disclusures of conflicts of interest (identifying each and every matter in which the firm has, within the past calendar year, represented any entity or individual with an interest adverse to the Texas Department of Transportation, or to the state of Texas or any of its boards, agencies, commissions, universities, or elected or appointed officials); and (7) confirmation of willingness to comply with the rules, policies, directives, and guidelines of the department, the commission, and the Attorney General of the state of Texas.

Note: The department is particularly concerned with issues of any conflict of interest. Respondents are admonished to make all practicable efforts to fully investigate, disclose, and address such conflicts.

Format and Person to Contact: Two copies of the proposal are requested. The proposal should be typed, preferably double spaced, on 8 1/2 by 11 inch paper with all pages sequentially numbered, and either stapled or bound together. It should be seat by mail or delivered in person, marked "Response to Request for Proposal" and addressed to General Counsel, Texas Department of Transportation, 125 East 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78701-2483. For questions, telephone the Office of General Counsel at (512) 463-8630.

Deadline for Submission of Response: All proposals must be received by the Texas Department of Transportation at the previously stated address no later than 5:00 p.m., on September 11, 2006.

TRD-200603987

[Federal Register: August 18, 2005 (Volume 71, Number 160)]
[Notices]
[Page 47861-47862]
From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]
[DOCID:fr18au06-147]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement; Smith County, TX

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared for the proposed

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

project in Smith County, Texas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald E. Davis, District Engineer, Federal Highway Administration--Texas Division, 300 E. 8th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, Telephone: 512-536-5960.

U.S. Highway (U.S.) 69/Loop 49 North Lindale Reliever Route (LRR)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for a proposal to construct a Lindale Reliever Route in Smith County, Texas. The proposed improvement would involve construction of a new location roadway

[[Page 47862]]

from the planned Loop 49 West/IH 20 interchange to connect with the existing U.S. 69 north of the City of Lindale, a roadway distance of approximately 5-6 miles.

The proposed Lindale Reliever Route would serve as a connector between Loop 49 and U.S. 69 and address safety, mobility, connectivity

and capacity needs.

Alternatives under consideration include (1) taking no action (the no-build alternative), (2) constructing a proposed Lindale Reliever Route facility built to current highway standards, and (3) improvements to existing highways. The proposed facility will be evaluated as a toll road project. A Feasibility Study prepared in 2001 evaluated four corridor alternatives along new location right-of-way and a No-Build alternative, resulting in the identification of a recommended study corridor. Subsequent public involvement opportunities have identified additional study corridors. Evaluation of a reasonable number of alignment alternatives will be documented in the EIS, as well as the no-build and existing highway improvement alternatives, based on input from federal, state, and local agencies, as well as private organizations and concerned citizens.

The EIS will evaluate potential impacts from construction and operation of the proposed roadway including, but not limited to, the following: Impacts to residences and businesses, including potential relocations and displacements; transportation impacts (construction detours, construction traffic, and mobility improvement); air and noise impacts from construction equipment and operation of the roadway; social and economic impacts; impacts to cultural resources; water

quality impacts from construction and roadway runoff; impacts related to tolling; and impacts to waters of the U.S. including wetlands from right-of-way encroachment.

Correspondence describing the proposed project and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed interest in the proposal. TxDOT completed a Feasibility Study for the project in May 2001. In conjunction with the Feasibility Study, TxDOT developed a steering committee, provided project information at two public meetings, and met with interested stakeholders. An agency scoping meeting is anticipated to be held by TxDOT in September 2006 to coordinate and solicit agency representatives' input on project plans including the purpose and need and the range of alternatives, introduce project team members, obtain comments pertaining to the scope of the EIS, identify important issues, set goals, develop project schedule, and respond to questions. A continuing public involvement program will include a project mailing list, project newsletters, a public scoping meeting (public notice will be given of the time and place), and numerous informal meetings with interested citizens and stakeholders. In addition, a public hearing will be held after the publication of the Draft EIS. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the hearing. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Research Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12373 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Donald E. Davis, District Engineer. [FR Doc. 06-7012 Filed 8-17-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

F-4	Scoping Meeting Documentation September 26, 2006 (Draft Need and Purpose and Draft Coordination Plan presented)

### TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



# NEWS

**Tyler District** 

TELEPHONE: 903-510-9241

CONTACT: Mike Battles, P.E.

Date: September 25, 2006

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct an Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Public Meeting on September 25, 2006 to discuss possible routes for the US 69 Lindale Reliever Route. The meeting will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Lindale Intermediate School Auditorium at 411 Eagle Spirit Drive. This public meeting will be held in an open-house format followed by a formal presentation.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The US 69 Reliever Route will ultimately relieve traffic through the City of Lindale. TxDOT will display a proposal for developing this corridor as a toll facility with a connection to the proposed Loop 49 at IH - 20. Attendees will be encouraged to actively participate in the development of the project purpose and need and the development of the ranges of the alternatives. Public input is encouraged.

### US 69 Lindale Reliever Route/Loop 49 North-- Need and Purpose (Draft)

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) proposes to construct the US 69 Lindale Reliever Route/Loop 49 North roadway facility in Smith County, Texas. The proposed improvement would involve construction of a US 69/Loop 49 roadway on new location with limits from the planned Loop 49 West/IH 20 interchange to a point along the existing US 69 approximately \_\_ miles north of the City of Lindale. The proposed project would be approximately 5 to 6 miles in length, depending on the alternative selected. This project would primarily serve as a connector/continuation between Loop 49 and US 69 and will be evaluated as a toll road candidate project.

A Feasibility Study prepared in 2001 evaluated four corridor alternatives along new

location right-of-way and a No-Build alternative, resulting in the identification of a recommended study corridor. Subsequent public involvement opportunities have identified additional study corridors. Evaluation of these corridor alternatives, as well as a reasonable number of alignment alternatives within the study corridors, will be documented in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

### Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed improvements would be designed to provide a safe and efficient transportation corridor. The TxDOT has identified the following underlying needs that the project would address: safety, mobility, connectivity and capacity.

### Safety

 A considerable amount of growth and retail development has occurred in the area surrounding Tyler. Residential, industrial and commercial growth has occurred in and around the City of Lindale. This trend is expected to continue. Accompanying the economic benefits of growth is an increase in traffic volumes that is impacting the existing US 69 system, with particularly heavy congestion in downtown Lindale. Completion of the Loop 49 West facility without a US 69 Reliever Route being in place would force Loop 49 West traffic traveling through on US 69 to utilize the current roadway through Lindale, exacerbating the traffic and decreasing roadway safety on the existing facility.

Based on projected traffic volumes provided by TxDOT, with the reliever route constructed, the 2027 volume would be 28,400 vehicles per day (vpd) on the existing US 69 north of IH 20. This volume is comparable to the 2007 projected volume of 29,000 vpd (without the proposed reliever route constructed). Without the reliever route in place, the projected volume on US 69 north of IH 20 is projected to be 35,000 vpd (from Feasibility Study for Lindale Reliever Route in Smith County; TxDOT, 2001).

### Mobility

 Another factor in determining the need and location of the Lindale reliever route is TxDOT's plan for Loop 49 around the City of Tyler. The southern and western sections of the loop (Loop 49 West) around Tyler has received a designation for a toll road and the proposed Lindale Reliever Route facility would be an extension of Loop 49 continuing north and tying into existing US 69 north of Lindale, providing an important link in regional transportation mobility.

### System Linkage

Loop 49 provides a critical link in the integrated regional transportation network, ultimately providing a circumferential loop around the City of Tyler (when combined with IH 20) while allowing through-traffic to bypass the existing and increasingly congested roadway network within the city, particularly US 69 (which transits highly populated residential areas through Tyler). US 69 is a component of the Texas Trunk System and provides for the safe, effective, and efficient movement of people and freight goods in east and northeast Texas.

### Capacity

• The proposed facility would be designed to provide adequate capacity to meet future traffic demands and volumes. The upgrade of US 69 from Lindale to Mineola to a four-lane divided facility is under construction and Loop 49 West is approved and moving forward. The Lindale section would create a bottleneck between these two upgraded roadway sections if a reliever route/connector is not constructed. US 69 north of Lindale, IH 20 and Loop 49 West will be divided freeway facilities without stop lights/signs, unlike the section of US 69 through downtown Lindale, which includes an urban, undivided section with multiple stops.

### Purpose of the Proposed Action

The purpose of the proposed project will serve the stated needs by:

- Improving safety, thereby reducing accident rates.
- Providing a highway which would facilitate the movement of people and goods throughout the region. The proposed facility would complement the regional US 69 and Loop 49 concepts.
- Providing adequate capacity to meet future traffic demands and volumes.
- Improving capacity is consistent with the policies and goals adopted within the Tyler District's long range plans and the Tyler Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) plan.

Questions and comments from the public regarding the social, environmental, and economic aspects of improvements will be considered in the environmental impact statement. Information about the proposed project is available for review at the office of Mike Battles, P.E., District Design Engineer, 2709 W. Front Street in Tyler, Texas. Mr. Battles may be reached at (903) 510-9241. All interested persons are invited to attend the meeting.

Persons who have special communication or accommodation needs and plan to attend this meeting are encouraged to contact Larry Krantz at (903) 510-9267 at least two work days prior to the meeting. Since this meeting will be conducted in English, any requests for language interpreters should also be made at least two days prior to the meeting. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.



September 25, 2006

Welcome,

On behalf of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), I want to thank you for attending this US 69 Lindale Reliever Route (Loop 49) Scoping Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to gain public comments on the purpose and need for this new highway.

As you enter the Public Meeting, you will notice displays that include the proposed corridor locations, as well as, a multimedia/public outreach video. TxDOT staff are available to discuss the displays and to answer your questions.

This Public Meeting is being held as an open house style/formal presentation meeting from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. A brief presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. For your convenience, a comment sheet is included in this packet which can be used for written comments. You may leave these comments in the marked boxes on the registration table or you can mail them to the address indicated on the sheet. Please return them by 5:00 p.m. October 9, 2006. Your input is always welcome at TxDOT.

Thank you for attending this Scoping Meeting. Public involvement is a vital part of the TxDOT project development process and we sincerely appreciate your participation.

Sincerely,

Randall C. Redmond, P.E. Director of Transportation, Planning and Development

Ludell C. Ledwood

#### US 69 Lindale Reliever Route/Loop 49 North-Need and Purpose (Draft)

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) proposes to construct the US 69 Lindale Reliever Route/Loop 49 North roadway facility in Smith County, Texas. The proposed improvement would involve construction of a US 69/Loop 49 roadway on new location with limits from the planned Loop 49 West/IH 20 interchange to a point along the existing US 69 approximately 2 miles north of the City of Lindale. The proposed project would be approximately 5 to 6 miles in length, depending on the alternative selected. This project would primarily serve as a connector/continuation between Loop 49 and US 69 and will be evaluated as a toll road candidate project.

A Feasibility Study prepared in 2001 evaluated four corridor alternatives along new location right-of-way and a No-Build alternative, resulting in the identification of a recommended study corridor. Subsequent public involvement opportunities have identified additional study corridors. Evaluation of these corridor alternatives, as well as a reasonable number of alignment alternatives within the study corridors, will be documented in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

#### Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed improvements would be designed to provide a safe and efficient transportation corridor. The TxDOT has identified the following underlying needs that the project would address: safety, mobility, connectivity and capacity.

#### Safety

• A considerable amount of growth and retail development has occurred in the area surrounding Tyler. Residential, industrial and commercial growth has occurred in and around the City of Lindale. This trend is expected to continue. Accompanying the economic benefits of growth is an increase in traffic volumes that is impacting the existing US 69 system, with particularly heavy congestion in downtown Lindale. Completion of the Loop 49 West facility without a US 69 Reliever Route being in place would force Loop 49 West traffic traveling through on US 69 to utilize the current roadway through Lindale, exacerbating the traffic and decreasing roadway safety on the existing facility.

Based on projected traffic volumes provided by TxDOT, with the reliever route constructed, the 2027 volume would be 28,400 vehicles per day (vpd) on the existing US 69 north of IH 20. This volume is comparable to the 2007 projected volume of 29,000 vpd (without the proposed reliever route constructed). Without the reliever route in place, the projected volume on US 69 north of IH 20 is projected to be 35,000 vpd (from Feasibility Study for Lindale Reliever Route in Smith County; TxDOT, 2001).

#### Mobility

 Another factor in determining the need and location of the Lindale reliever route is TxDOT's plan for Loop 49 around the City of Tyler. The southern and western sections of the loop (Loop 49 West) around Tyler has received a designation for a toll road and the proposed Lindale Reliever Route facility would be an extension of Loop 49 continuing north and tying into existing US 69 north of Lindale, providing an important link in regional transportation mobility.

#### System Linkage

Loop 49 provides a critical link in the integrated regional transportation network, ultimately providing a circumferential loop around the City of Tyler (when combined with IH 20) while allowing through-traffic to bypass the existing and increasingly congested roadway network within the city, particularly US 69 (which transits highly populated residential areas through Tyler). US 69 is a component of the Texas Trunk System and provides for the safe, effective, and efficient movement of people and freight goods in east and northeast Texas.

#### Capacity

• The proposed facility would be designed to provide adequate capacity to meet future traffic demands and volumes. The upgrade of US 69 from Lindale to Mineola to a four-lane divided facility is under construction and Loop 49 West is approved and moving forward. The Lindale section would create a bottleneck between these two upgraded roadway sections if a reliever route/connector is not constructed. US 69 north of Lindale, IH 20 and Loop 49 West will be divided freeway facilities without stop lights/signs, unlike the section of US 69 through downtown Lindale, which includes an urban, undivided section with multiple stops.

#### Purpose of the Proposed Action

The purpose of the proposed project will serve the stated needs by:

- Improving safety, thereby reducing accident rates.
- Providing a highway which would facilitate the movement of people and goods throughout the region. The proposed facility would complement the regional US 69 and Loop 49 concepts.
- Providing adequate capacity to meet future traffic demands and volumes.
   Improving capacity is consistent with the policies and goals adopted within the Tyler District's long range plans and the Tyler Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) plan.



# US 69 Reliever Route at Lindale Intermediate School

# Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meeting COMMENT SHEET

Lindale Intermediate School Lindale, Texas September 25 at 6:00 p.m.

Thank you for attending this scoping meeting. Public information is a vital part of the project process and your participation is greatly appreciated. We need your comments on the purpose and need for this new highway.

Comments on the proposed project are requested. You may:

Return to: TxDOT, Attention: Randy Redmond

1. 2. 3.	Turn in written comments at this meeting using this form.  Provide verbal comments to the court reporter.  Mail in your written comments to the address on the bottom of this form.
	ments:
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Plea	se use additional pages if necessary.
Pleas	se include your name and mailing address.
Nam	e:
Maili	ng Address:
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	u choose to mail your comments, they must be received prior to 5:00 p.m., ber 9, 2006.

2709 W. Front Street, Tyler,

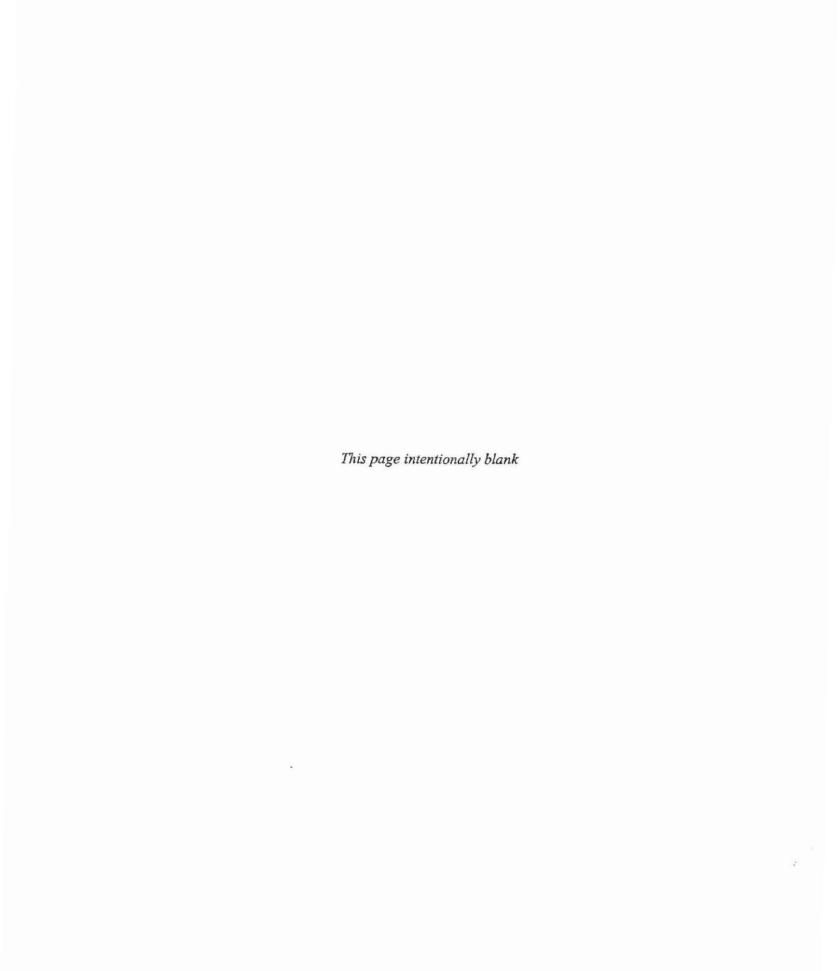
Texas 75702

# (Draft) US 69/Loop 49 North Lindale Reliever Route Environmental Impact Statement Coordination Plan

Prepared by:

Texas Department of Transportation Tyler District Office Tyler, Texas

September 25, 2006



#### I. INTRODUCTION

This draft Coordination Plan for the US 69/Loop 49 North Lindale Reliever Route project describes the interaction between TxDOT transportation planners, resource agencies, and the public. It is preliminary, and is subject to change based on the input of participating/cooperating entities, issues encountered, and TxDOT priorities. The required components of a Coordination Plan are outlined below, with a general discussion of the proposed approach included where appropriate. The tentative schedule for completion of the environmental review process is attached as Exhibit 1.

#### II. PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF INTENT AND SCOPING ACTIVITIES

Publication of the NOI occurred in the Texas Register on August 11, 2006, and will occur in the Federal Register on August 18, 2006. An agency/public scoping meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2006, at the Lindale Intermediate School auditorium.

#### III. DEVELOPMENT OF PURPOSE AND NEED

#### III.A Invitation to Agencies

TxDOT will mail letters of invitation to the initial scoping meeting to potential participating and coordinating agencies, soliciting comments on the Draft Purpose and Need and providing them with the draft coordination plan and project schedule for their comment. If the project schedule is later modified, the modified schedule will be distributed to agencies/entities identified as participating/coordinating agencies. The initial invitation letter is attached to this plan. The agency comment period will be 30 days.

#### III.A.1 Participating/Coordinating Agencies

The following list identifies potential participating and coordinating agencies that will be contacted:

Smith County Tyler MPO City of Lindale City of Hide-a-Way Smith County Historical Commission Chair Texas General Land Office (GLO) USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Texas Railroad Commission Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Tribal Coordination State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) Texas Historical Commission (THC) Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department (USFWS) Sabine River Authority, East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG)

Northeast Texas Regional Mobility Authority (NETRMA)

#### III.B Public Involvement

TxDOT will hold a Public Involvement Opportunity to solicit comments on the scope of the EIS, as well as the Draft Purpose and Need, and will provide the preliminary project schedule included with the coordination plan.

The Public Involvement Opportunity must be publicized and can take the form of meetings/workshops, solicitations of verbal or written input, conference calls, website postings, distribution of printed materials, or other means as appropriate. TxDOT will advertise the public involvement opportunity according to established TxDOT/FHWA protocol.

The project schedule may be made available by posting on a project website, distributed to the people on a well-advertised mailing list, or handed out at the public meetings. If the schedule is later modified, the modified schedule must be shared with the public in the same way as the previous schedule.

The public comment period will not exceed 30 days.

#### IV. IDENTIFICATION OF RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES

TxDOT will determine the appropriate methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of each alternative, in consultation with FHWA and the public.

#### IV.A Agency Comment

TxDOT will solicit comments on the analysis of project alternatives from all participating agencies. The agency comment period will not exceed 30 days.

If comments regarding methodologies and level of detail to be used in the analysis of project alternatives are provided, the commenting agency should describe the alternate methodology that it prefers and state why. After the participating agencies have had the opportunity to comment, TxDOT will make the final decision on the methodology and level of detail to be used, and relay that decision to participating agencies.

#### IV.B Public Involvement

TxDOT will hold a Public Involvement Opportunity to solicit comments on the project alternatives.

The Public Involvement Opportunity will be publicized and can take the form of meetings/workshops, solicitations of verbal or written input, conference calls, website postings, distribution of printed materials, or other means as appropriate. TxDOT will advertise the public involvement opportunity according to established TxDOT/FHWA protocol.

The public comment period will not exceed 30 days.

#### V. COLLABORATION ON IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGIES

TxDOT will collaborate with the FHWA, cooperating and participating agencies regarding the methodologies to be utilized in the impact assessment process.

The method of collaboration will be primarily informal communications. Products of this process, such as comparison matrices or impact summaries, will be circulated to those entities requesting a participating role in the project, for their review and comment.

#### VI. COMPLETION OF DEIS

Notice of publication of the DEIS will be published in the Federal Register. The comment period for agencies and the public is not to exceed 60 days after publication.

## VII. IDENTIFICATION OF THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND THE LEVEL OF DESIGN DETAIL

After the completion of the scooping process, TxDOT will develop a reasonable number of reasonable alignment alternatives (at least two), which will be carried forward (along with the No Build Alternative) for detailed evaluation in the EIS document. All reasonable alternatives, as well as the No Build, will be evaluated to an equivalent level of detail in the DEIS document.

#### VIII. COMPLETION OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (FEIS)

If the Draft EIS identifies one of the build alternatives as the recommended preferred alternative, TxDOT will request from FHWA permission to develop for the Final EIS a higher level of design detail than for the other alternatives. This request may be included in a letter to the lead federal agency requesting acceptance of the identification of a preferred alternative.

#### IX. COMPLETION OF ROD

Following approval of the Final EIS (FEIS), the FHWA will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD) for the proposed undertaking. This ROD will summarize the findings of the EIS process and compile a list of commitments included in the FEIS document.

#### X. COMPLETION OF PERMITS, LICENSES, OR APPROVALS AFTER THE ROD

All required permits, licenses or approvals identified in the Final EIS will be obtained prior to the initiation of construction, in a manner consistent with all local, state and federal laws. Environmental commitments from the FEIS will be summarized in the Record of Decision.

Exhibit 1. Preliminary Schedule for Completion of Environmental Review Process for Proposed US 69/Loop 49 Lindale Reliever Route

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Activity	Expected Occurrence
Notice of Intent Publication and Scoping Activities	Summer 2006
Development of Purpose and Need	Summer/Fall 2006
Identification of Range of Alternatives	Fall 2006
Collaboration on Impact Assessment Methodologies	Winter 2006/2007
Completion of the DEIS	Spring 2007
Identification of the Preferred Alternative and the Level of Design Detail	Winter/Spring 2007
Completion of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)	Fall 2007
Completion of ROD	Winter 2008
Completion of Permits, Licenses, or Approvals after the ROD	Prior to Construction (to be determined based on funding)

September 25, 2006 Public Scoping Meeting for US 69 Lindale Reliever Route EIS

Comments by Topic

Topic	Number of Persons
Wants Reliever Route far away from Hide-a-Way Lake	5
Project not needed	2
Does not want route E (noise, pollution)	5
Make decision soon	1
Use straight north route	1
No build or Option D, with maintained access to Staples property via CR 473	1
People directly within the study area should have more of a say than those in Hide-a-Way.	1
Hide-a-Way Lake residents signing petition expressing opposition to Option E	266
Total	282



August 14, 2006

Mayor City of Anywhere 101 Main St. Anywhere, Texas 75701

Dear Mayor:

Re: Invitation to Become Participating Agency in the Environmental Review Process for the LP 49/US 69 Lindale Reliever.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for proposed LP 49/US 69 Lindale Reliever. The proposed project is to construct a new location LP 49/US 69 roadway with the limits from the planned LP 49 West/IH 20 interchange to a point along the existing US 69 north of the City of Lindale, Texas. The purpose of the project, as currently defined, is to provide a safe and efficient transportation corridor. The enclosed scoping information packet provides more details. A preliminary coordination plan and schedule are also enclosed.

Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users establishes an enhanced environmental review process for certain FHWA project, increasing the transparency of the process, as well as opportunities for participation. The requirements of section 6002 apply to the project that is the subject of this memorandum. As part of the environmental review process for this project, the lead agencies must identify, as early as practicable, any other Federal and non-Federal agencies that may have an interest in the project, and invite such agencies to become participating agencies in the environmental review process. Your agency has been identified preliminarily as one that may have an interest in this project, because it may affect transportation planning in your city; accordingly, you are being extended this invitation to become actively involved as a participating agency in the environmental review process for the project.

As a participating agency, you will be afforded the opportunity, together with the public, to be involved in defining the purpose of and need for the project, as well as in determining the range of alternatives to be considered for the project. In addition, you will be asked to:

- Provide input on the impact assessment methodologies and level of detail in your agency's area of expertise:
- Participate in coordination meetings, conference calls, and joint field reviews, as appropriate; and
- Review and comment on sections of the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to communicate any concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, the alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Designation as a "participation agency" does not imply that the participating agency supports the proposed project or has any jurisdiction over, or special expertise concerning the proposed project or its potential impacts. A "participating agency" differs from a "cooperating agency," which is defined in regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act as "any Federal agency other than a lead agency which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal (or a reasonable alternative) for legislation or other major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment." 40 C.F.R. § 1508.5.

Your agency does not have to accept this invitation. If, however, your agency is a Federal agency, and if you elect not to become a participating agency, you must decline this invitation in writing, indicating that your agency has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project, no expertise or information relevant to the project, and does not intend to submit comments on the project. The declination may be transmitted electronically to rredmond@dot.state.tx.us; please include the title of the official responding. Written responses from Federal agencies declining designation as participating agencies should be transmitted to this office not later than September 12, 2006.

Additional information will be forthcoming during the public scoping process, notification of which will be provided in the near future. If you have questions regarding this invitation, please contact Randy Redmond, P.E. at (903) 510-9296.

Sincerely,

Mary M. Owen, P.E. District Engineer

Attachments: Scoping Information Packet
Draft Coordination Plan
Draft Schedule

cc: Federal Highway Administration



August 25, 2006

Mr. Jim Cox City of Lindale City Administrator 201 North Main St. Lindale, TX 75771

Re: Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meeting for US 69/LP 49 Lindale Reliever Route

Dear Mr. Cox,

Your agency is invited to the first Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meeting for the US 69 Lindale Reliever Route on September 25, 2006 at the Lindale Intermediate School at 411 Eagle Spirit Drive, Lindale, TX 75771. The public meeting notice is attached.

Please reference our letter dated August 14, 2006, inviting your agency to either become a participating or coordinating agency.

Your agency does not have to accept this invitation. Whether or not, your agency elects to become a participating or coordinating agency, please send your agency's position via letter or electronically to dbooth@dot.state.tx.us; please include the title of the official responding. Written responses should be transmitted to this office not later than September 12, 2006.

If you have questions regarding this invitation, please contact Dale Booth, P.E. at (903) 510-9113.

Sincerely,

Dale Booth, P.E.

Advance Planning Engineer

TxDOT - Tyler District

attachments:

Public Notice for EIS Scoping Meeting 1

CC:

Federal Highway Administration

## US 69 Lindale Reliever Route Participating and Coordinating Agencies

#### Participating Agencies

City of Lindale (Enclosed)

City of Tyler Planning & Zoning

City of Tyler

ETCOG (East Texas Council of Governments)

GLO (General Land Office)

Smith County Judge, Becky Dempsey

Mayor Kashouty

Mayor McClenny

Mayor Seeber

NETRMA (North East Texas Regional Mobility Act)

RRC (Railroad Commission)

Sabine River Authority

Smith County Engineer

Smith County Historical Commission

Tyler Chamber of Commerce

Tyler City Manager

Tyler Economic Development

Tyler Metro Chamber of Commerce

#### Coordinating Agencies

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma (Enclosed)

Caddo Nation of Oklahoma

Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma

Comanche Nation of Oklahoma

Eastern Shawnee

EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)

Kickapoo of Kansas

Kiowa Indian Tribe

Mescalero Apache

Muscogee Nation

NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service)

Qupaw Tribe

SHPO (State Historic Preservation Officer)

TCEO (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality)

The Delaware Nation

Thlopthlocca Tribal Town

Tonkawa Tribe

TPWD Athens (Texas Parks and Wildlife Athens office)

TPWD (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)

Tyler NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service Tyler office)

United Keetoowah Band of Indians

US Fish & Wildlife

Wichita & Affiliated Tribes

USACE (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)



Ir. Dan Burke
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Policy and Regulations Division, MC 205
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Ir. Thomas J. Cloud, Field Supervisor
J.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
11 Stadium Drive East, Suite 252
Arlington, TX 76011

Mr. Jeff Austin, III Chair, NETRMA 305 S. Broadway Avenue, Suite 100 Tyler, TX 75702

Mayor Bill Kashouty City of Hide-a-Way P.O. Box 594 Lindale, TX 75771

Mr. Jim Cox City of Lindale City Administrator 201 North Main St. Lindale, TX 75771

Mr. Edgar French President The Delaware Nation P.O. Box 825 Anadarko, OK 73005

Mr. Bill Bala Smith County Engineer 101 North Broadway, Suite 304 Tyler, TX 75702 Mr. Neil Lebsock U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District 819 Taylor Street Fort Worth, TX 76102

Ms. Celeste Brancel Brown Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Endangered Resources Branch 3000 S.I.H. 35, Suite 100 Austin, TX 78704

Ms. Karen Hardin Texas Parks and Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program P.O. Box 30 Athens, TX 75751

Ms. Heather Nick City of Tyler 423 W. Ferguson Street Tyler, TX 75702

Ms. Ruth Toathy Comanche Nation of Oklahoma P.O. Box 908 Lawton, OK 73502

The Honorable Becky Dempsey 101 North Broadway, Suite 304 Tyler, TX 75702

Ms. Barbara Holly Director Planning and Zoning Tyler MPO 423 W. Ferguson Street Tyler, TX 75702 fr. Tab Beall reasurer, NETRMA 05 S. Broadway Avenue, Suite 100 yler, TX 75702

Ar. Jeff Warr Chair Long Range Planning, NETRMA 105 S. Broadway Avenue, Suite 100 Tyler, TX 75702 Mr. Gary Halbrooks Chair Finance, NETRMA 305 S. Broadway Avenue, Suite 100 Tyler, TX 75702

Ms. Adrienne V. Campbell History Programs Divison Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276 Austin, TX 78711-2276 Sample of Agency Participation Letter
Sent to Preceding 18 Agencies

November 8, 2006

Mr. Dan Burke Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Policy and Regulations Division, MC 205 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

Re: US 69/LP 49 Lindale Reliever Route

Dear Mr. Burke:

Your agency is invited to participate in the US 69/LP 49 Environmental Impact Statement Study. The study will consist of identifying environmental constraints and issues to be included in an evaluation matrix and to develop the relative importance for each constraint and issue. This meeting will also include the discussion of various study corridors. The meeting will be held on November 16, 2006 at the Kinsey Community Center at 912 South Mt. Sylvan Street (FM 849). The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact John Goodwin, P.E. with Bucher, Willis & Ratliff (BWR) at (903) 581-7844, e-mail jgoodwin@bwrcorp.com or Ladd Thompson, P.E. TxDOT Project Manager at (903) 569-2349.

Sincerely,

Randall C. Redmond, P.E. Director of Transportation Planning and Development

Ladell C Ledmond

F-6	Participating Agency/Affected Meeting Documentation – November 16, 2006

Mr. Dan Burke Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Policy and Regulations Division, MC 205 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

Mr. Thomas J. Cloud, Field Supervisor U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services 711 Stadium Drive East, Suite 252 Arlington, TX 76011

Mr. Jeff Austin, III Chair, NETRMA 305 S. Broadway Avenue, Suite 100 Tyler, TX 75702

Mayor Bill Kashouty City of Hide-a-Way P.O. Box 594 Lindale, TX 75771

Mr. Jim Cox City of Lindale City Administrator 201 North Main St. Lindale, TX 75771

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Mr. Bill Bala Smith County Engineer 101 North Broadway, Suite 304 Tyler, TX 75702 Mr. Neil Lebsock U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District 819 Taylor Street Fort Worth, TX 76102

Ms. Celeste Brancel Brown Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Endangered Resources Branch 3000 S.I.H. 35, Suite 100 Austin, TX 78704

Ms. Karen Hardin Texas Parks and Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program P.O. Box 30 Athens, TX 75751

Ms. Heather Nick City of Tyler 423 W. Ferguson Street Tyler, TX 75702

Ms. Ruth Toathy Comanche Nation of Oklahoma P.O. Box 908 Lawton, OK 73502

The Honorable Becky Dempsey 101 North Broadway, Suite 304 Tyler, TX 75702

Ms. Barbara Holly
Director Planning and Zoning
Tyler MPO
423 W. Ferguson Street
Tyler, TX 75702

Mr. Tab Beall Treasurer, NETRMA 305 S. Broadway Avenue, Suite 100 Tyler, TX 75702

Mr. Jeff Warr Chair Long Range Planning, NETRMA 305 S. Broadway Avenue, Suite 100 Tyler, TX 75702 Mr. Gary Halbrooks Chair Finance, NETRMA 305 S. Broadway Avenue, Suite 100 Tyler, TX 75702

Ms. Adrienne V. Campbell History Programs Divison Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276 Austin, TX 78711-2276 Sample of Participating Agency Meeting Letter

November 16, 2006

Sent to the 18 Preceding Agencies

	45.



November 8, 2006

Mr. Dan Burke Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Policy and Regulations Division, MC 205 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

US 69/LP 49 Lindale Reliever Route

Dear Mr. Burke:

Your agency is invited to participate in the US 69/LP 49 Environmental Impact Statement Study. The study will consist of identifying environmental constraints and issues to be included in an evaluation matrix and to develop the relative importance for each constraint and issue. This meeting will also include the discussion of various study corridors. The meeting will be held on November 16, 2006 at the Kinsey Community Center at 912 South Mt. Sylvan Street (FM 849). The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact John Goodwin, P.E. with Bucher, Willis & Ratliff (BWR) at (903) 581-7844, e-mail jgoodwin@bwrcorp.com or Ladd Thompson, P.E. TxDOT Project Manager at (903) 569-2349.

Sincerely,

Randall C. Redmond, P.E. Director of Transportation Planning and Development

Ladell C. Ledmond



## Participating Agency Meeting and Workshop US 69 - Lindale Reliever Route November 16, 2006 - 6:30 pm

Kinsey Community Center 912 South Mt. Sylvan Street Lindale, Texas

#### **AGENDA**

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~	Introduc	X
I.	Introduc	TINNS
4.	<b>4114 0446</b>	LIUIIS

#### II. Presentation

- A. EIS Coordination Plan
- B. Need & Purpose
- C. September 25, 2006 Public Meeting
- D. Study Area
- E. Study Corridors
- F. Corridor Evaluation Criteria
- G. Relative Importance Factor Survey
- H. Schedule

#### III. Break

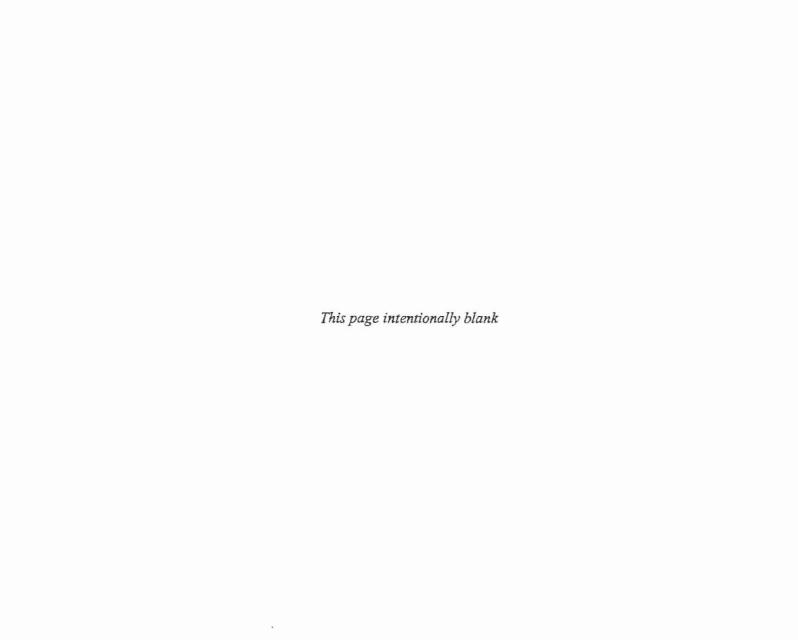
#### IV. Q&A

- A. EIS Coordination Plan
- B. Need & Purpose
- C. Study Area

### V. Participating Agency Workshop

- A. Study Corridors
- B. Corridor Criteria
- C. Relative Importance Factor Survey

#### VI. Next Meeting



Meeting Exhibit Conversations

BWR Project: 2006-0331.01 September 25, 2006 6:00 to 7:00 pm Lindale Intermediate School Auditorium SAFETEA-LU Need and Purpose Public Meeting

### Attendees:

See TxDOT Public Meeting Sign in sheets.

Project Concerns heard at exhibit displays [and responses]:

### From Hide A Way Lake participants:

- Dislike Noise, Air Quality, and Visual impacts of the project. [noted]
- Thinks property values will decline due to project. [noted, other opinions exist]
- Access at FM 16 proposed interchange will be a benefit for getting to south Tyler once LP 49 is in place. [noted]
- Comments from non-residents that attend local camps (eg: Timberline Baptist
  Encampment) should be taken less lightly than local residents since they only stay
  there one week out of the year while people that live in Hide A Way live here year
  round. [all comments received will be considered]

### From study area property owners:

- Dislike project crossing their property. [understood and noted]
- Concerned about access to property severed by project. [noted]
- Dislike being "on hold" with improvement or development plans until preferred route is selected. [understood and noted]
- Get as far away from my place as possible. [understood and noted]
- At first we did not like the project at all and wanted to fight to stop it, then we
  accepted the fact that it was going to happen and it was probably going to adversely
  affect our property (on the west side of the study are). Now we just want know where
  it is going, how it is going to affect us, and move on. It is the not knowing that is the
  most difficult. [understood and noted]
- People who pay property taxes in the study area of the project should have a greater voice in the decision making. [all voices and comments received will be considered]

### From general participants:

- Project will not benefit me. [noted]
- No one will use the relief route if it is tolled. [noted, other opinions exist]
- Why not go around Lindale on the east side and either connect to IH 20 or LP 49 on the east side where it was planned to come out at SH 155 NE of Tyler? [route length and related cost significantly higher than study area corridor alternatives]
- Why is this taking so long? [changes in legislative and agency processes]
- We would like to know the location as soon as possible so the people who own lots, have lots to sell, are looking for lots to buy, etc. can move on. [noted]
- Why don't you go ahead and tell us where the location will be because "you already know which alternative is the preferred alternative." [preferred alternative undetermined at this time]



**Lindale Reliver Route Participating Agency Meeting & Workshop** 

Hovember 16, 2906



### Introductions

- Name
- Representing
- What are your expectations for this meeting?



### SAFETEA-LU Requirements

- EIS Coordination Plan
  - Publish NOI and hold agency/public scoping meeting (Sept 25, 2006)
  - Develop Need & Purpose (Nov 2, 2006 ver)
    - W/Draft Coordination Plan & Scho
    - Participating Agency Invitations
       Comment period ended Oct 2006
  - Identify Corridor Alternatives
  - 30 Day Agency comment period
  - Public Involvement Opportunity
     Workshop, Heatings, Solicitation



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### SAFETEA-LU Requirements

- EIS Coordination Plan (cont.)
  - Develop Impact Assessment Methods
  - Develop DEIS
  - Identify Preferred Corridor
  - Develop alignment alternatives for at least 2 designs
  - Complete DEIS & hold Hearing
  - Complete FEIS
  - FHWA issues ROD

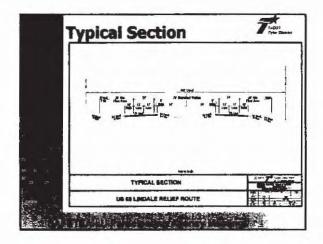
### SAFETEA-LU Requirements

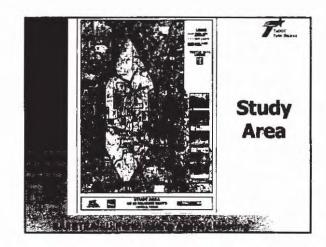
- EIS Coordination Plan (cont.)
- -- Further Project Development

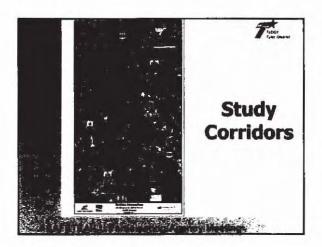
  - · Environmental Permitting · Develop ROW Maps and Deeds
  - · Acquire ROW and adjust Utilities
  - Develop Plans and Specifications
  - Construction

Need & Purpose Public Mtg

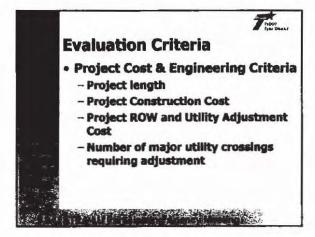
- Held September 25, 2006
- Comments evaluated
  - No written Need & Purpose comments
  - Several written comments pertaining to corridors
- Need & Purpose updated to address agency comments

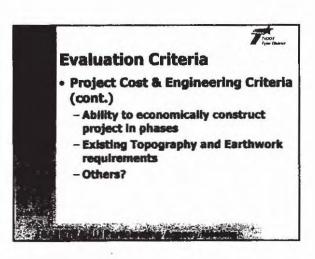






# Corridor Evaluation Criteria Identify concerns related to the project Provide measure for quantifying potential project impacts Used to evaluate impacts for various project alternatives Relative importance depending on agency or individual







### **Evaluation Criteria**

- Project Safety and Access Criteria
  - Number of Interchanges
  - Skew of Interchanges
  - Number of Grade separations
  - Skew of Grade separations
  - Access to Developing Areas
  - Number of new access roads
  - Length of new access roads
  - Others?

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### **Evaluation Criteria**

- Social/Human Environment Criteria (cont.)
  - School Land Use
  - Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities
  - Air Quality Attainment Issues
  - Noise Levels Receivers within corridor

  - Historic and Archeological Assets (recorded)
  - Cemeteries
  - Social and Economic Impact of Tolled Highway

- **Hazardous Waste Sites**
- Water Wells (recorded)
- Others?

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### **Evaluation Criteria**

- **Natural Environment Criteria** (cont.)
  - Threatened/Endangered Species-**Federally Listed Occurrences**
  - Threatened/Endangered Species-State Listed Occurrences
  - Aesthetic and Scenic Quality
  - Others?

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### **Evaluation Criteria**

- Social/Human Environment Criteria
  - Commercial Land Use
  - Community Land Use
  - Church Land Use
  - Oll/Gas Land Use
  - Park Land Use
  - Public Land Hea
  - Residential Land Use
  - Mixed Residential/Commercial Land Use

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### **Evaluation Criteria**

- **Natural Environment Criteria** 
  - Waters of the US/Wetlands Acres
  - Waters of the US/Streams Linear
  - Water Quality 303(d) listed streams
  - Wildlife Habitat Forested Area
  - Floodplains number of crossings
  - Floodplains acres

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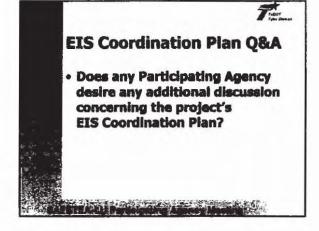
### Criteria Relative Importance Factor Survey

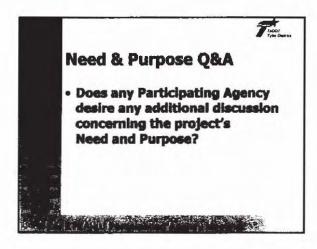
- Relative Importance Factor consists of a scale of numbers identified below ranging from 1 (representing very small emphasis) to 5 (representing very strong emphasis)
  - > 1 = Very Small Emphasis
- > 2 = Small Emphasis
- > 3 = Some Emphasis
- > 4 = Strong Emphasis
- > 5 = Very Strong Emphasis

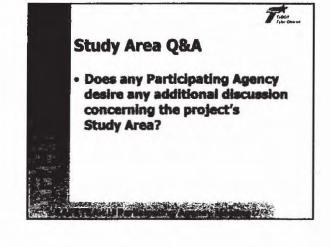
## Criteria Relative Importance Factor Survey Implementation Will compute Average Scoring for each criteria based on surveys Will compute Average Scoring for each criteria category based on surveys Will present data results in rank order to help with project impact assessment Surveys need to be returned by Friday December 15, 2006

Schedule	Tax Ne
Activity	Expected Occurr
Notice of Intent Publication and Scoping Activities	Summer 2006
Development of Purpose and Need	Summer/Fell 2006
Identification of Range of Alternatives	Fall 2006
Collaboration on Impact Assessment Methodologies	Winter 2006/2007
Completion of the DEIS	Spring 2007
Edentification of the Preferred Alternative and the Level of Design Detail	Winter/Spring 2007
Completion of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)	Fall 2007
Completion of ROD	Winter 2008
Completion of Permits, Licenses, or Approveds after the ROD	Prior to Construction (to be determined based on funding





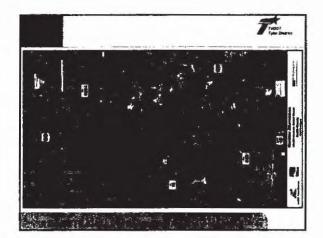






### **Workshop - Study Corridors**

- We would like input from each Participating Agency concerning the Study Corridors for this project?
- Do we need to look at adjusting or adding corridors?
- · Let's discuss.





### **Workshop - Evaluation Criteria**

- We would like input from each Participating Agency concerning the evaluation criteria to aid in this project's Impact Assessment Methodology.
- · Criteria listed is typical.
- Should additional criteria be considered?
- Let's review the criteria in the meeting packet and discuss.



### Workshop - Criteria RIF Survey

- We would like input from each Participating Agency concerning the Relative Importance Factor (RIF) for each criteria to aid in this project's Impact Assessment Methodology.
- Complete tonight or complete later at your convenience.
- Return surveys by December 15, 2006 as instructed in packet.

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### **Next Meeting**

- · After Surveys analyzed
- After Corridor evaluations made
- Expected early 2007

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### **Questions?**

Remember to return surveys by December 15, 2006 Thank You!

### US 69/Loop 49 North Lindale Reliever Route

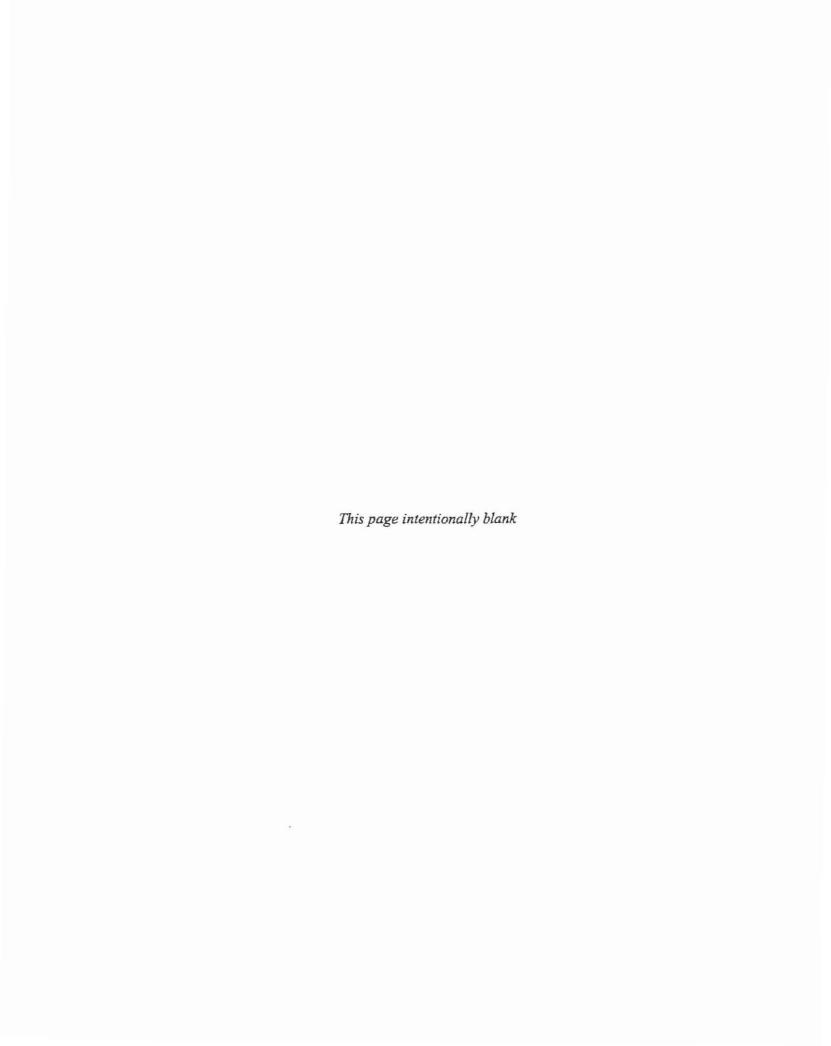
### **Environmental Impact Statement Coordination Plan**

CSJ 0190-04-033

Prepared by:

Texas Department of Transportation Tyler District Office Tyler, Texas

Revised November 16, 2006



The purpose of a Coordination Plan (Plan), one of several requirements under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Efficient Transportation Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (August 10, 2005) bill of 2005, is to coordinate public and agency (Federal Lead, Joint Lead, Cooperating, Participating) participation and comment during the environmental review process associated with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the extension of US 69/Loop 49 in Smith County, Texas. The Plan integrates The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) requirements with other environmental review and consultation requirements in order to reduce delay in the environmental review process.

This Plan has been prepared in collaboration with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and consists of the following sections:

Section 1.	Agency Definitions
Section 2.	Agency Expectations
Section 3.	Specific Milestones Review Process
Section 4.	Issues Resolution Process
Exhibit 1.	Preliminary Schedule for Completion of Environmental Review Process

The Plan for the US 69/Loop 49 North Lindale Reliever Route project is preliminary, and is subject to change based on the input of Federal Lead, Agency (FHWA), Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT), Participating and Cooperating entities. The preliminary schedule for completion of the environmental review process is attached as Exhibit 1.

### 1. AGENCY DEFINITIONS

Federal Lead Agency: The Department of Transportation agency conducting the NEPA analysis. For US 69/Loop 49, this is FHWA.

Federal Lead Agency	Contact Person / Title	Phone / Email	
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	Mohammad Farhoud / Area Engineer	(512) -536-5925 Mohammad.Farhoud @fhwa.dot.gov	

Joint Lead Agency: A project sponsor that is a state or local government receiving SAFETEA-LU funds. For US 69/Loop 49, this is TxDOT.

Joint Lead Agency	Contact Person / Title	Phone / Email
Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)	Jay Tullos / Environmental Coordinator, Tyler District Amy Stotts / Environmental Specialist	(903) -510-9153 jtullos@dot.state.tx.us (903) 510-9107 astotts@dot.state.tx.us

Cooperating Agencies: Federal agencies other than the Federal Lead Agency who have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal (or a reasonable alternative) for legislation or other major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. For US 69/Loop 49, these are:

Cooperating Agencies*	Contact Person / Title	Phone / Email
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Neil Lebsock	(817) 886-1743 neil.m.lebsock@swf02.usace.army.mi
	,	

<sup>\*</sup> Cooperating Agencies are also considered to be Participating Agencies.

Participating Agencies: Federal, state, regional or local agencies who may have an interest in the project. For US 69/Loop 49, these are:

Participating Agencies	Contact Person / Title	Phone / Email	
City of Hide-a-Way	Bill Kashouty / Mayor	(903) 597-2221 billk558@cox.net	
City of Lindale*	Jim Cox / City Administrator	(903) 882-3422 jimcox@lindaletx.gov	
City of Tyler*	Joey Seeber / Mayor  Barbara Holly / Planning and Zoning  Tom Mullins / Economic Development	(903) 531-1175 (800) 648-9537 tmullins@tylertexas.com	
East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG)	Glynn Knight / Executive Director	(903) 984-8641	
Northeast Texas Regional Mobility Authority (NETRMA)*	Jeff Austin, III / Executive Director (Chairman)	(903) 595-6585 jeff3@austinbank.com	
Sabine River Authority	Jerry Clark / Executive Director	(409) 746-2192	
Smith County*	Bill Bala, P.E. / Engineer Becky Dempsey / County Judge*	(903) 590-4800 www.wbala@smith-county.com (903) 535-0577	

		bdempsey@smith-county.com
Smith County Historical Commission	Randall Gilbert / Smith Co. Historical Chair	
Texas General Land Office (GLO)	Jerry Patterson / Commissioner	(512) 463-5001
Texas Railroad Commission		
Tyler Chamber of Commerce	Henery Bell / Chief Operating Officer	(903) 592-1661 hbell@tylertexas.com
Tyler Metro Chamber of Commerce	Dorothy Franks	
Tyler Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)*	Heather Nick / Senior Planner / MPO Coordinator	(903) 531-1174 hnick@tylertexas.com
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Norm Sears	(214) 665-8336
State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO)	F. Lawerance Oaks / State Historic Preservation Officer	
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)	Dan Burke	(512) 239-0011
Texas Historical Commission (THC)*	Adrienne V. Campbell / Historian	(512) 936-7403 Adrienne.Campbell@thc.state.tx.us
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)—Athens Office*	Karen Hardin / Program Specialist	(903) 675-4447 Karen.Hardin@cox-internet.com
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	Celeste Brancel-Brown	(512) 389-4800
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)- Tyler Office	Susan Baggett / State Resource Conservationist / TSP Coordinator	(254) 742-9805 Susan.Baggett@tx.usda.gov
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Thomas J. Cloud / Field Supervisor	(817) 277-1100 Tom Cloud@fws.gov

<sup>\*</sup>Entities marked with an asterisk (\*) have notified TxDOT of their desire to be a Participating Agency.

### 2. AGENCY EXPECTATIONS

### The expectations for Federal Lead Agency and Joint Lead Agency are:

- Take such action as is necessary and proper to facilitate the expedited review of the environmental review process.
- Ensure that any EIS or other document required under NEPA is completed in accordance with SAFETEA-LU and applicable federal law.
- Provide as early as practicable, but no later than the appropriate project milestone, project information on need and purpose, environmental resources, alternatives and proposed methodologies.
- Provide the Plan to Participating and Cooperating Agencies.
- The Federal Lead Agency (FHWA) will have ultimate responsibility for.
  - 1. Review and adoption of a NEPA document.
  - Ensuring that the Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT) complies with all design and mitigation commitments.
- Development of a project purpose and need, the range of alternatives to be considered and other procedural matters.
- Involve the following tribal governments in the NEPA process:

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma

Eastern Shawnee Kiowa Indian Tribe Muscogee Nation

The Delaware Nation\*

Tonkawa Tribe

Wichita & Affiliated Tribes

Caddo Nation of Oklahoma

Comanche Nation of Oklahoma\*

Kickapoo of Kansas Mescalero Apache Qupaw Tribe

Thlopthlocca Tribal Town

United Keetoowah Band of Indians

\*Tribes marked with an asterisk (\*) have notified TxDOT of their desire to be involved.

### The expectations for Cooperating Agencies are:

- Identify as early as practicable any issue of concern regarding the project's environmental or socioeconomic impacts.
- Identify as early as practicable any issues that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from the granting a permit or other approval needed for the project.
- Share information that may be useful to the Federal Lead Agency (FHWA), Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT), and Cooperating and Participating Agencies.
- Participate in meetings and field reviews.
- Assume, at the request of the Federal Lead Agency (FHWA), responsibility for preparing analysis over which that Cooperating Agency has special expertise.
- Make support staff available at the Federal Lead Agency (FHWA) request.
- Generally use their own resources and funds.

· Review and comment on preliminary drafts of Draft EIS and Final EIS.

### The expectations for Participating Agencies are:

- Identify as early as practicable any issue of concern regarding the project's environmental or socioeconomic impacts.
- Identify as early as practicable any issues that could substantially delay or prevent the an agency from granting a permit, delay completion of the environmental review process, or result in denial of approval needed for the project.
- Provide input on purpose and need, methodologies, alternatives within 15 days of receipt thereof.
- Respond affirmatively in writing to the letter of invitation (for non-federal agencies) within 30 days of receipt thereof.
- Respond in writing to the letter of invitation if you wish to decline the invitation and opt out of the role/process (for federal agencies) within 30 days of the receipt thereof.
- · Provide input on this Plan and schedule.
- Participate as needed in Issues Resolution Process described in Section 4.

Specific coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) will be in accordance with the TxDOT/SHPO Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

### 3. SPECIFIC MILESTONES REVIEW PROCESS

The Federal Lead Agency (FHWA) and the Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT) commit to the following coordination with Participating and Cooperating Agencies:

- Request to Participate Letter will be sent to potential Participating Agencies along with information about the project and specific direction to flag any issues of concern (at the beginning of scoping process).
- Request for review of the project purpose and need (response to be provided within 15 days
  of receipt thereof). This information on need and purpose will be provided to Participating
  Agencies by the Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT) as a part of the scoping process.
- Provision of pertinent information about environmental and socioeconomic resources in the area. This information will be provided by written correspondence or in a meeting.
- Review of the following information related to alternatives:
  - 1. Proposed range of alternatives (including relationship to previous planning studies)
  - 2. Proposed methodologies for screening of alternatives
  - 3. Proposed Draft EIS alternatives
  - 4. Proposed Recommended Preferred Alternative

This information will be provided in meetings and/or by written correspondence. Response to be provided back to the Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT) about each of these within 15 days of receipt thereof.

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Provision of Draft EIS (Response to be provided within 30 days of receipt thereof).

Exhibit 1 contains details regarding each project milestone. The milestone review process will include the following:

- Notice of Intent (NOI) and Scoping Activities. Publication of the NOI occurred in the <u>Texas Register</u> on August 11, 2006, and in the <u>Federal Register</u> on August 18, 2006. An agency/public scoping meeting was held on September 25, 2006, at the Lindale High School auditorium.
- II. Development of Need and Purpose. The Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT) mailed letters of invitation to the initial scoping meeting to potential Participating and Coordinating Agencies, in order to solicit comments on the draft Need and Purpose and provide them with the draft Coordination Plan and project schedule for their comments. If the project schedule is later modified, the modified schedule will be distributed to agencies/entities identified as Participating and Coordinating agencies. The agency comment period was 30 days. The contacted agencies did not have comments on the draft Need and Purpose or draft Coordination Plan. Note: A copy of the Need and Purpose Statement is attached to this Coordination Plan.

Participating and Coordinating Agencies were contacted by letter dated August 14, 2006. TxDOT will solicit comments on the analysis of project alternatives from all participating agencies. The agency comment period will not exceed 30 days. If comments regarding methodologies and level of detail to be used in the analysis of project alternatives are provided, the commenting agency should describe the alternate methodology that it prefers and state why. After the participating agencies have had the opportunity to comment and provide input, TxDOT/FHWA will compile their input and make a decision on the methodology and level of detail to be used, and relay that decision to participating agencies.

TxDOT held a public/agency scoping meeting on September 25, 2006, in order to solicit comments on the scope of the EIS, as well as the draft Need and Purpose statement and draft Coordination Plan. The draft Coordination Plan included a preliminary project schedule. Approximately 115 people attended the meeting, which included an open house period as well as a formal presentation by the TxDOT project manager. No verbal or written comments regarding the draft Need and Purpose or Coordination Plan were received from members of the public or agencies. Several comments regarding potential alternatives to be considered were submitted.

TxDOT will hold a second public/agency scoping meeting in the Fall/Winter of 2006 in order to present the refined Need and Purpose and move toward a discussion of alternatives to be considered. The public meeting will be publicized and will take the form of a meeting/workshop, to include solicitation of verbal or written input. In addition, conference calls, website postings, distribution of printed materials, meetings with affected property owners, or other means as appropriate will be utilized in order to seek additional public input. TxDOT will advertise the public involvement opportunity according to established TxDOT/FHWA protocol.

The project schedule was made available in the draft Coordination Plan distributed at the September 25, 2006 meeting. In the future, the schedule will be made available by posting on a project website, distributing to the people on a project mailing list, or handing out at future public meetings. If the schedule is modified, the modified

schedule will be shared with the public in the same way as the previous schedule. The public comment period will not exceed 30 days.

TxDOT will hold an additional public involvement opportunity to solicit comments on the project alternatives. The public involvement opportunity will be publicized and will take the form of a meeting/workshop, and include solicitation of verbal or written input. In addition, conference calls, website postings, meetings with participating agencies and affected property owners, distribution of printed materials, or other means as appropriate will be utilized in order to seek additional public input. TxDOT will advertise the public involvement opportunity according to established TxDOT/FHWA protocol. The public comment period will not exceed 30 days.

- III. Identification of Range of Alternatives. The Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT) will determine the appropriate methodologies and level of detail required in the analysis of each alternative, in consultation with the Lead Federal Agency (FHWA) and the public.
- IV. Collaboration on Impact Assessment Methodologies. The Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT) will collaborate with the Federal Lead Agency (FHWA), Cooperating and Participating Agencies regarding the methodologies to be utilized in the impact assessment process. The method of collaboration will be primarily informal communications. Products of this process, such as comparison matrices or impact summaries, will be circulated to those entities requesting a participating role in the project, for their review and comment.
- V. Completion of DEIS. Notice of publication of the Draft EIS (DEIS) will be published in the <u>Federal Register</u>. The comment period for agencies and the public is not to exceed 60 days after publication. A Public Hearing will be held after the DEIS is approved. The Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT) will advertise the Public Hearing according to established TxDOT/FHWA protocol.
- VI. Identification of the Preferred Alternative and the Level of Design Detail. After the completion of the scoping process, the Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT) will develop a reasonable number of reasonable alignment alternatives (at least two), which will be carried forward (along with the No Build Alternative) for detailed evaluation in the EIS document. All reasonable alternatives, as well as the No Build, will be evaluated to an equivalent level of detail in the DEIS document.
- VII. Completion of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). If the DEIS identifies one of the build alternatives as the recommended preferred alternative, the Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT) will request from the Federal Lead Agency (FHWA) permission to develop for the Final EIS (FEIS) a higher level of design detail than for the other alternatives. This request may be included in a letter to the Lead Federal Agency (FHWA) requesting acceptance of the identification of a preferred alternative.
- VIII. Completion of the Record of Decision (ROD). Following approval of the FEIS, the Lead Federal Agency (FHWA) will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD) for the proposed undertaking. This ROD will summarize the findings of the EIS process and compile a list of commitments included in the FEIS document.
- IX. Completion of Permits, Licenses, or Approvals after the ROD. All required permits, licenses or approvals identified in the Final EIS will be obtained prior to the

initiation of construction, in a manner consistent with all local, state and federal laws. Environmental commitments from the FEIS will be summarized in the ROD.

### 4. ISSUES RESOLUTION PROCESS

The Federal Lead Agency (FHWA), the Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT), Cooperating and Participating Agencies shall work cooperatively in accordance with this section to identify and resolve issues that could delay completion of the environmental review process or could result in denial of any approvals required for the project under applicable laws.

Based on information received from the Federal Lead Agency (FHWA), Joint Lead Agency (TxDOT), Cooperating and Participating Agencies shall identify, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts. Issues of concern include any issues that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project.

Meetings will be held as needed during the course of the NEPA process to discuss and resolve issues.

If issues are not being resolved in a timely manner.

- An official issues resolution meeting will be scheduled.
- If resolution cannot be achieved within 30 days following such a meeting and a
  determination has been made by the Federal Lead Agency (FHWA) that all information
  necessary to resolve the issues has been obtained, then
- The Federal Lead Agency (FHWA) will notify the heads of all Participating and Cooperating Agencies, the Governor, the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Council of Environmental Quality, and
- The Federal Lead Agency (FHWA) will publish such notice in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

Exhibit 1
Preliminary Schedule for Completion of Environmental Review Process for Proposed US 69/Loop 49 Lindale Reliever Route

Activity	Expected Occurrence
I. Notice of Intent (NOI) Publication and Scoping Activities	August-September 2006
II. Development of Need and Purpose	August-November 2006
III. Identification of Range of Alternatives	Winter 2007 (Jan. / Feb.)
IV. Identify Impact Assessment Methodologies	Winter 2007 (Jan. / Feb.)
V. Completion of the DEIS	Spring 2007
VI. Identification of the Preferred Alternative and the Level of Design Detail	Winter/Spring 2007
VII. Completion of the FEIS	Fall 2007
VIII. Completion of Record of Decision (ROD)	Winter 2007/2008
IX. Completion of Permits, Licenses, or Approvals after the ROD	Pre-Construction (based on funding availability)

### US 69 Lindale Reliever Route/Loop 49 North-- Need and Purpose (Draft)

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) proposes to construct the US 69 Lindale Reliever Route/Loop 49 North roadway facility in Smith County, Texas. The proposed improvement would involve construction of a US 69/Loop 49 roadway on new location with limits from the planned Loop 49 West/IH 20 Interchange to a point along the existing US 69 north of the City of Lindale. The proposed project would be approximately 5 to 6 miles in length, depending on the alternative selected. This project would primarily serve as a connector/continuation between Loop 49 and US 69 and will be evaluated as a toll road candidate project.

A Feasibility Study prepared in 2001 evaluated four corridor alternatives along new location right-of-way and a No-Build alternative, resulting in the identification of a recommended study corridor. Subsequent public involvement opportunities have identified additional study corridors. Evaluation of these corridor alternatives, as well as a reasonable number of alignment alternatives within the study corridors, will be documented in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The study area is illustrated on the attached exhibit.

### Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed improvements would be designed to provide a safe and efficient transportation corridor. TxDOT has identified the following underlying needs that the project would address: safety, mobility, connectivity and capacity.

### Safety

• A considerable amount of development including retail development has occurred in the area surrounding Tyler. Residential, industrial and commercial growth has also occurred in and around the City of Lindale. The cities of Tyler and Lindale expect the trend in increasing development to continue. Accompanying the economic benefits of development is an increase in traffic volumes that is impacting the existing US 69 system, with heavy congestion occurring in downtown Lindale. Completion of the Loop 49 West facility without a US 69 Reliever Route being in place would force Loop 49 West traffic traveling through on US 69 to utilize the current roadway through Lindale, exacerbating the traffic and decreasing roadway safety on the existing facility.

Based on projected traffic volumes provided by TxDOT, with the reliever route constructed, the 2027 volume would be 28,400 vehicles per day (vpd) on the existing US 69 north of IH 20. This volume is comparable to the 2007 projected volume of 29,000 vpd (without the proposed reliever route constructed). Without

the reliever route in place, the projected volume on US 69 north of IH 20 is projected to be 35,000 vpd (from Feasibility Study for Lindale Reliever Route in Smith County; TxDOT, 2001).

### Mobility

• Another factor in determining the need and location of the Lindale Reliever Route is TxDOT's plan for the Loop 49 around the City of Tyler. The southern and western sections of the Loop (Loop 49 West) around Tyler has received a designation for a toll road and the proposed Lindale Reliever Route facility would be an extension of Loop 49 continuing north and tying into existing US 69 north of Lindale, providing an important link in regional transportation mobility.

### System Linkage

Loop 49 provides a critical link in the integrated regional transportation network, ultimately providing a circumferential loop around the City of Tyler (when combined with IH 20) while allowing through-traffic to bypass the existing and increasingly congested roadway network within the city, particularly US 69 (which transits highly populated residential areas through Tyler). US 69 is a component of the Texas Trunk System and provides for the safe, effective, and efficient movement of people and freight goods in east and northeast Texas.

### Capacity

• The proposed facility would be designed to provide adequate capacity to meet future traffic demands and volumes. The upgrade of US 69 from Lindale to Mineola to a four-lane divided facility is under construction and Loop 49 West is approved and moving forward. The Lindale section would create a bottleneck between these two upgraded roadway sections if a reliever route/connector is not constructed. US 69 north of Lindale, IH 20 and Loop 49 West will be divided freeway facilities without stop lights/signs, unlike the section of US 69 through downtown Lindale, which includes an urban, undivided section with multiple stops.

### Purpose of the Proposed Action

The purpose of the proposed project will serve the stated needs by:

- Improving safety, thereby reducing accident rates.
- Providing a highway which would facilitate the movement of people and goods throughout the region. The proposed facility would complement the regional US 69 and Loop 49 concepts.
- Providing adequate capacity to meet future traffic demands and volumes.
   Improving capacity is consistent with the policies and goals adopted within the

November 2, 2006 version
TxDOT and Agency review comments addressed

Tyler District's long range plans and the Tyler Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) plan.

11/16/2006

Corridor Evaluation Criteria & Relative Importance Factor Survey US 69 Lindale Reliever

Participating Agency Instructions:

STEP 1. Page 2 and 3 of this document contains a list of criteria being considered to be used to evaluate corridor alternatives for this project. Please review this list for completeness in evaluating these corridors. Any agency may propose additional criteria for inclusion into the corridor evaluation and if so presented, may be included in the evaluation process if approved by a majority of the Participating Agencies present and if consistent with FHWA guidance. For example, within the social context of local deer hunting, one agency could propose that we should look at the number of Deer Stands within each corridor. If a majority of the agencies present agree, and if consistent with FHWA guidance, we would add criteria #18, Number of Deer Stands, under Social/Human Environment Criteria.

The goal of this step will be to gain input from the Participating Agencies concerning the criteria to be used for the project's Impact Assessment Methodology.

STEP 2. For each criteria identified in STEP 1, determine a Relative Importance Factor from a scale of numbers as identified below ranging from 1 (representing very small emphasis) to 5 (representing very strong emphasis). There is no "right" or "wrong" answer here. All evaluation criteria will be considered in the evaluation process. Choose the number that most reflects your and your Participating Agency's opinions as to the Relative Importance Factor each criteria should have for evaluating the corridor alternatives. Use the following Relative Importance Factor scale for your selection.

- 1 = Very Small Emphasis
- 2 = Small Emphasis
- 3 = Some Emphasis
- 4 = Strong Emphasis
- 5 = Very Strong Emphasis
- + Speak for your agency; give your honest opinion.
- + Vary your responses. You might begin filling out the survey thinking all the items are extremely important. But some statements need more emphasis than others. Show these variations in your responses.

The goal of this step will be to gain input from the Participating Agencies concerning the relative importance of each criteria to be used for the project's Impact Assessment Methodology.

If desired, the Participating Agency may take this survey back to their office to garner additional input from agency peers. Surveys must be delivered to TxDOT (TxDOT Tyler District Office, Attn: Amy Stotts, 2709 W Front Street, Tyler, Texas 75702 or TxDOT Mineola Area Office Attn: Ladd Thompson, 205 NE Loop 564, Mineola, Texas 75773) prior to 5:00 p.m. local time on Friday December 15, 2006. Surveys received after this deadline may or may not be included in this survey data.

### 11/16/2006 Criteria & Relative Importance Survey

Criteria Number	Criteria	Relative Importance Factor (1-5)
	Project Cost & Engineering Criteria	
1	Project length .	
2	Project Construction Cost	
3	Project ROW and Utility Adjustment Cost	
4	Number of major utility crossings requiring adjustment	
5	Ability to economically construct project in phases	
6	Existing Topography and Earthwork requirements	
	Project Safety and Access Criteria	
1	Number of Interchanges	
2	Skew of Interchanges	
3	Number of Grade separations	
4	Skew of Grade separations	
5	Access to Developing Areas	
6	Number of new access roads	
7	Length of new access roads	
	Social/Human Environment Criteria	
1	Commercial Land Use	
2	Community Land Use	
3	Church Land Use	
4	Oil/Gas Land Use	
5	Park Land Use	
6	Public Land Use	
7	Residential Land Use	
8	Mixed Residential/Commercial Land Use	
)	School Land Use	
10	Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities	
11	Air Quality - Attainment Issues	
12	Noise Levels - Receivers within corridor	
13	Historic and Archeological Assets (recorded)	
14	Cemeteries	
15	Social and Economic Impact of Tolled Highway	
16	Hazardous Waste Sites	
17	Water Wells (recorded)	

### 11/16/2006

	Natural Environment Criteria	
1	Waters of the US/Wetlands - Acres	
2	Waters of the US/Streams - Linear Feet	
3	Water Quality - 303(d) listed streams	
4	Wildlife Habitat – Forested Area	
5	Floodplains - number of crossings	
6	Floodplains – acres	
7	Threatened/Endangered Species- Federally Listed	
	Occurrences	
8	Threatened/Endangered Species-State Listed	
	Occurrences	
9	Aesthetic and Scenic Quality - degree of constraint	



### Participating Agency Meeting and Workshop US 69 - Lindale Reliever Route November 16, 2006 - 6:30 pm

List of Acronyms and Terms used in presentation

**SAFETEA-LU** - Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) Federal Legislation signed August 10, 2005 by President George W. Bush. [1]

**NOI** — Notice of Intent. A Notice of intent is a notice published to give notice that an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. The NOI includes the proposed action, the scoping process, and the name and address of a person to whom comments may be sent. [2]

**Need & Purpose** - A broad statement of the project's transportation objectives (Purpose) along with a detailed explanation of existing conditions that need to be changed or problems that need to be remedied (Need).

**EIS -** Environmental Impact Statement. An environmental impact statement is a document which is prepared when significant project impacts are evident or identified after analysis in the Environmental Assessment (EA). The EIS requires both a draft and final statement and extensive public involvement. [2]

**EIS Coordination Plan** — The plan developed to structure the lead agency's interaction with the participating agencies and the public during development of an Environmental Impact Statement. [1]

**Participating Agency** - Interested agencies that have a chance to comment during specific phases of the environmental review process. Participating agencies can be any Federal, State, Tribal, or local government agency. [1]

**Corridor** - A broad geographical band with no predefined size or scale that follows a general directional flow connecting major sources of trips. It involved a nominally linear transportation service area that may contain a number of streets, highways, and transit route alignments. [2]

**DEIS** - Draft Environmental Impact Statement [2]

**Alignments** — Alignments refer to the geometric design elements that define the horizontal and vertical configuration of the roadways. [2]

FEIS - Final Environmental Impact Statement [2]

FHWA - US Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration [1]

**ROD** — Record of Decision. The final approval of an Environmental Impact Statement issued by the FHWA. [2]

**ROW** — Right of way. A general term denoting land, property or interest therein, usually in a strip, acquired for or devoted to transportation purposes. [2]

**Study Area** — Geographical area establishing general project boundaries.

Study Corridors - Corridors established for comparative studies.

**Corridor Evaluation Criteria** — Attributes identified and measured for each corridor to help discern positive and negative project impacts.

**Interchange** — A system of interconnecting roadways in conjunction with one or more grade separations that provides for the movement of traffic between two or more roadways or highways on different levels. [2]

**Grade Separation** — The crossing of two highways or a highway and a railroad at different levels. [2]

**Access** — Conditions on certain sections of highways where the right to access the highway by abutting property owners or occupants is allowed by a public authority. [2]

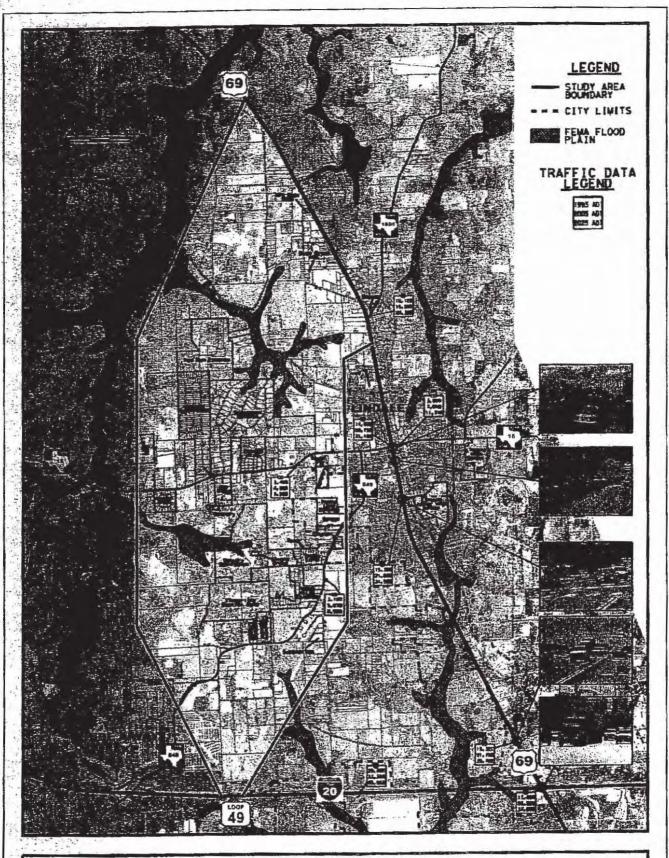
**Noise Receiver** — Location of an outdoor area where frequent human activity occurs that might be impacted by highway traffic noise and may benefit from reduced noise levels. [2] **Waters of the US/Wetlands** — Waters of the US are all waters which are currently used, were used, or may be used, for interstate or foreign commerce, including waters subject to tidal effect and wetlands. Wetlands means land that is inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration to support a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions such as swamps, marches, bogs, and similar areas. [2]

**303(d) listed streams** - Water bodies that are not meeting quality standards set for their use under the federal Clean Water Act. [3]

**Threatened/Endangered Species** — A threatened species is any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. An endangered species is any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. [2]

### References:

- [1] FHWA- http://www.fhwa.dot.gov
- [2] TxDOT- ftp://ftp.dot.state.tx.us
- [3] TCEQ-http://www.tceq.state.tx.us

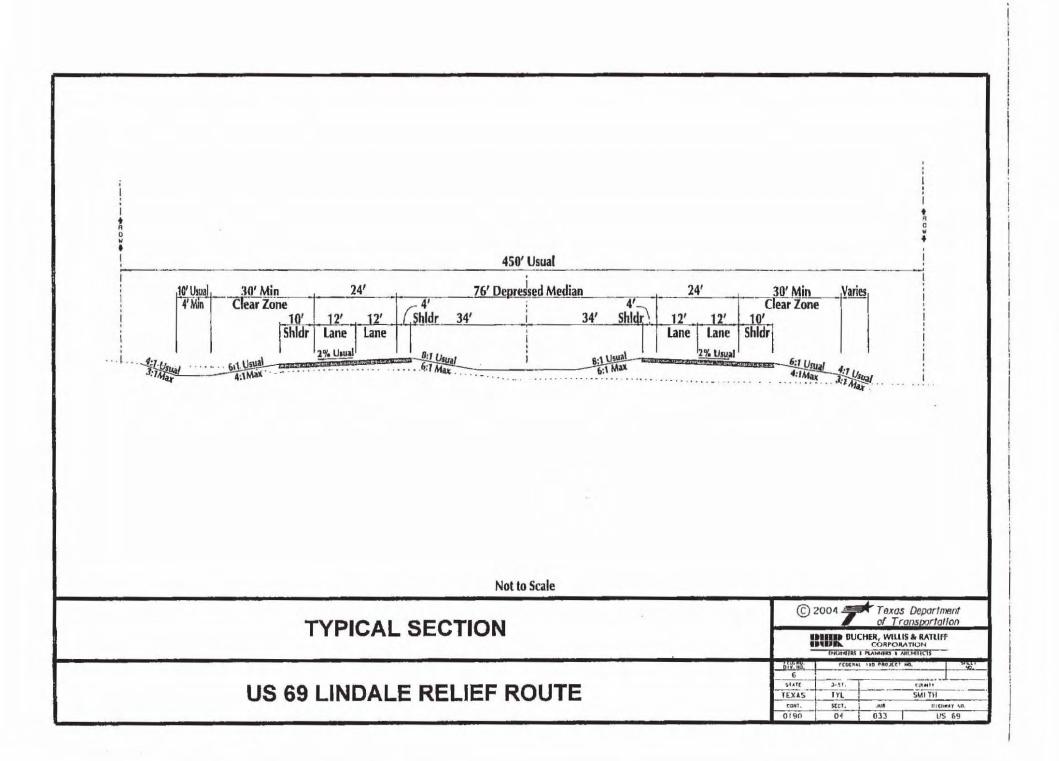






STUDY AREA US 69 RELIEVER ROUTE LINDALE, TEXAS

STEPS SUCHER, WILLIS & RATLIFF SCIPS. CONTRACTOR NO.COL. D. D. COLLEGE









**Corridor Alternatives** US 69 Undale Relief Route Smith County csJ 0190-04-023

### NOV. 16, 2006 meeting

Lindale Reliever Route Participating Agency Meeting

Bill Bala, P.E. Smith County Road and Bridge Engineer 903-590-4800 www.wbala@smith-county.com

Barbara Holly
Director Planning & Zoning
Tyler MPO
903-531-1175
bholly@tylertexas.com

The Honorable Bill Kashouty Mayor of Hideaway Hm-903-882-9854 Wk-903-597-2221 billk558@cox.net

Jim Cox Lindale City Manager 903-882-3422 jimcox@lindaletx.gov

RMA:
Jeff Austin III
Chairman, North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority
903-595-6585
jeff3@austinbank.com

Part. Meeting

Smith County RMA members:

Tab Beall 903-597-7664 tbeall@pbfcm.com

Gary Halbrooks 903-561-8000 garyhalbrooks@venueproperties.com

Jeff Warr 903-894-3805 jwarr@cox-internet.com Lindale Reliever Route Participating Agency Meeting -2-

The Honorable Becky Dempsey Judge of Smith County 903-535-0577 bdempsey@smith-county.com

### BWR:

John Goodwin, P.E. igoodwin@bwr.com 903-581-7844

Emily Crom ecrom@bwr.com 214-373-7873

TxDOT:
Mary M. Owen, P.E.
Randall C. Redmond, P.E.
Dale T. Booth, P.E.
Jay Tullos
Amy Stotts
Ladd Thompson, P.E., Project Manager

Coordinating Agencies  Neil Lebsock Sent e-mail 19/27/06  (877)886-1743  Neil.m. lebsock@swfpd.usace.army.mil
Karen Hardin TK Parks + Wildlife  Karen Hardin Ocox Internet Com (903) 675-4447
Ruth Toahty (le lain wait) Commanche Mation le bi nwait@hormail.com
Edgan French (Tamara-Francis, Director)  Delaware Matton (405) 247-2448  TFrancis@thedelawarenation-nsn.gov
Adrienne Campbell (512) 936-7403 Adrienne Campbell @ the State. Tx. US

Meeting Notes

BWR Project: 2006-0331.01 November 16, 2006 6:30 to 8:30 pm Kinsey Community Center, Lindale, Texas SAFETEA-LU Participating Agency Meeting

### Attendees:

See TxDOT Meeting Sign in sheets.

Ladd Thompson from the TxDOT Mineola Area Office opened the meeting and asked those present to introduce themselves. Ladd introduced John Goodwin from Bucher, Willis & Ratliff Corporation (BWR) Tyler Office and turned the meeting over to John for the informational presentation. John covered the status of the project including discussing the EIS Coordination Plan, Need and Purpose, September 25, 2006 Public Meeting, Study Area, Typical Section, Study Corridors, Corridor Evaluation Criteria, and Relative Importance Factor Survey. During the presentation, those present commented on and asked various questions related to general project development and project impacts. The meeting recessed for a 15 minute break.

After the break, John went through a Question and Answer period for the EIS Coordination Plan, Need & Purpose, and Study Area for the project. After the Question and Answer period, the Participating Agencies present were asked to review and comment on the existing Study Corridors.

John discussed project investigations that involved shifting Corridor D to the west just north of FM 16 to miss a mobile home subdivision and investigations into looking at a corridor that veered off of Corridor E just north of FM 16, merging with Corridor D approximately 1 mile north. Comments from those in attendance indicated that Corridor D should be shifted west north of FM 16 to miss the mobile home subdivision and corridors should be studied to connect Corridor E to Corridor D as well as Corridor D to Corridor E north of FM 16. These will be give Corridor F and Corridor G designations.

John discussed the presented evaluation criteria proposed to be used to evaluate project impacts. Comments from those in attendance indicated the desire to evaluate light pollution as a social impact and as such, that evaluation criteria was added to the list.

John explained the desire to gather input from each participating agency for evaluation criteria relative importance. John asked for a combined response from each Participating Agency and requested return of these surveys by December 15, 2006. TxDOT and BWR thanked those in attendance and the meeting was adjourned.

Notes compiled 11-17-06 by John B. Goodwin, BWR



## Participating Agency Meeting and Workshop US 69 Lindale Reliever Route Kinsey Community Center November 16, 2006

Name	
LADON THOMPSON, PE	
BARBARA MALEY	
Ken Calvert	
BILL KASHOUTY	ſ
FAROLD SPIDLE	
John Groadus	
DON STEWART	

Entity/Address/E-Mail Phone



### Participating Agency Meeting and Workshop US 69 Lindale Reliever Route Kinsey Community Center November 16, 2006

Entity/Address/E-Mail	Phone
**	
	Entity/Address/E-Mail



## Participating Agency Meeting and Workshop US 69 Lindale Reliever Route Kinsey Community Center November 16, 2006

Name	Entity/Address/E-Mail	Phone
Dale Booth		
Charlie VARNEll		
Fin Mallay		
Keren Tamon Wayne Damon		
Wayne Damon		
JAMIS K Braws		
Howard Beggs		
C) = Cox		